

subject beyond the stage reached by Sampson himself, handicapped as the latter admittedly was by the want of a practical knowledge of Irish. In his essay on the subject,¹ Professor Meyer supported Sampson's contention that Shelta was a secret language of great antiquity, formed on a basis of Irish at an early stage of its development. He further claimed for it a close connexion, if not an identity, with the secret tongues referred to here and there in Irish literature. These claims must be considered later.

The remaining contributions to the study of Shelta may be enumerated more briefly. Mr D. Fearon Ranking narrates an interview of twenty minutes with a family of tinkers speaking Romani and Shelta at Crinan Harbour in Argyllshire:² but he records only one of their words (*yergan* 'tin'). In Mr Frederick Arnold's paper, already quoted, he gives some words derived from one Costello, with whom he had established friendly relations at Poughkeepsie, N.Y.—a friendship much strengthened 'when he found that I knew a little Old Irish'—once more, that troublesome ambiguity! Costello, we cannot but feel, must have been easily satisfied: for we find on referring to Mr Arnold's vocabulary that he was unable to recognize the Irish words underlying *chi'ni*³ 'fire', or *grau'mach hrī hū* (which he translates 'I'm very fond of you in my heart'), or to resolve the doubts of his tinker friends as to whether *krūk mor* means 'a river' or 'a big hill'.

After the above publications, and one or two popular magazine articles of no special importance, the subject seems to have disappeared from literature, till revived by Mr Greene.

II. CONTINUOUS SPECIMENS OF THE SHELTA LANGUAGE

The following materials are available for the study of the construction of Shelta:

(α) A translation of the Lord's Prayer, dictated to Dr Sampson by John Barlow, and published in his article on *Shelta*, in Chambers's *Encyclopaedia*. (Here printed from Sampson's MS., with interlined phonetic transcript and literal translation.)

(β) A collection of one hundred sentences in Shelta, published by Dr Sampson in *Journal*, G.L.S. II, i (1907-8), p. 272.

¹ 'The Irish Origin and the Age of Shelta', *Journal*, G.L.S. I, ii (1891), p. 257.

² *Journal*, G.L.S. I, ii, p. 319.

³ In words quoted here and elsewhere from Arnold, the accent-mark is always accentual, not, as here used, a symbol of palatalization.

(γ) Two short stories in Shelta, published by Dr Sampson in *Journal*, G.L.S. I, iii (1892), p. 23. Referred to below as γ 1, γ 2. A third story, found among Dr Sampson's MSS.: γ 3, below.

(δ) A number of sentences printed in Mr Greene's papers in *Bēaloideas*: also a few sentences in MS., from the same collector, found among Dr Sampson's papers.

The matter in β, γ is here reprinted, with some corrections. In addition I have given a phonetic transcript and literal translation of the first seventy-eight sentences in β. The words in Mr Greene's communications are incorporated in the vocabulary.

There is a reference among Dr Sampson's MSS. to a fourth story called *Tharsp malya* (tarsp māl'a), but this appears to be lost.¹ Nor have I been able to discover the 'specimens of the dialect of the south', of which a promise (unfulfilled) of publication appears in a footnote to γ in *Journal*, G.L.S.

(α) THE LORD'S PRAYER

[The first line is the form as given by Dr Sampson in his MS. copy; the second is the phonetic rendering; the third is a word-for-word literal rendering.]

Mūilsha's gather, swūrth a mūnniath, mūnni-graūa-kradyi
Mwīlša('s) gāter swurt a mun'iaθ | mun'i-grā [a] krad'i
 I's father up in goodness | good-luck at stand[ing]

dhūilsha's mūnnik. Gra be grēdhi'd shedhi ladhu, as aswūrth
dīlša('s) munik | grā (be)² grēdi(d) šedi ladu (as) a-swūrt
 thou's name | love be made upon earth as up

in mūnniath. Būg mūilsha thalósk-minūrth goshta dhurra.
(in) mun'iaθ | bug mwīlša talósk- min'urt gošta dura |
 in goodness | give I day- now enough bread |

Gretul³ our shakū, araik mūilsha getyas nīdyas grēdhi
get'al (our) šako arék mwīlša get'a(s) nid'a(s) grēdi
 forgiveness our sin like I forgives persons to do

gamiath mūilsha. Nijesh solk mwī-īl stūrth gamiath, but bug
g'amiaθ mwīlša | nid'eš salk mwī'l sturt g'amiaθ (but) bog
 badness I | not take I into badness but take

¹ I suspect that sentences 28, 45, 49, 58, 63, 76, 78, under β (below), are fragments of this tale.

² Words and inflections in round brackets are borrowed from English, those in square brackets from Irish.

³ A slip in pronunciation or writing for *get'al*.

*mūlsha achim gamiath. Dhī-īl the sṛidug, thadyūrath, and
mwilša axim g'amiaθ | dī'l (the) sṛidug tād'iraθ (and)
I out-of badness | thou the kingdom strength and
mūnniath, gradhum a gradhum.
mun'iaθ gradum a gradum.
goodness life and life.*

(β) SENTENCES¹

1. *Mwīlsha bog'd Sheldrū swūrth nadherum's miskon (mwīlša bog(d) Šeldrū swurt nad'ram('s) m'iskon—I got S. on mother's breast). 'I learned Shelta on (my) mother's breast.'*

2. *A thārī shūrth gather to kam ((a) tāri širt gāter (to) kam—A talk down-from father to son). 'A speech, come down from father to son.'*

3. *Mūlsha's kam granhēs oð luba (mwīlša('s) kam grani(s) oð luba—I's son knows two word). 'My son knows (only) two words.'*

4. *Stēsh glox ār-gwilyō (stēš glox [ar] gwil'o—Yes-is man after lying). 'The man has lain down.'*

5. *Thūm thol gyuksta (tom tul g'ūksta—big price monkey). 'A big price, old man!'*

6. *Nījesh kradyī a simaja (nīd'eš krad'i (a) sumad'—Not stop a moment). 'Don't stay a minute.'*

7. *Bīōer a kyena krish blanōg (b'ōr' [a'] k'ena kriš blānōg—Woman of-the house old cow). 'The woman of the house is an old cow.'*

8. *'Nyūrth lesk mīlsha thwūrl', thārīs bīōer (n'urt l'esk mwīlša tul, tāri(s) b'ōr'—Now tell I value says woman). "'Now tell me the price", says the woman.'*

9. *Thōrī nolsk and thāri to the lakīn (tōri nolsk (and) tāri (to the) lakīn—Come near and speak to the girl). 'Come here and talk to the girl.'*

10. *Get nōberī Sheldhrū (gēt nōb'ri Šeldrū—Stop bog Shelta). 'Leave off your Bog-Latin.'*²

11. *Mūlsha's karb thōrī'd axim ken-gop (mwīlša('s) karb tōri(d) axim k'en-gop—I's hag come-d out house-poor). 'My old woman came out of the workhouse.'*

¹ In these sentences the form as given by Sampson is printed first: then follow the rendering into the phonetic system here adopted, an absolutely literal translation, and a free rendering—the latter normally that given by Sampson.

² Or preferably 'your bad [attempt at talking] Shelta'.

12. *Nijesh, swiblī, getūrl* (nīd'eš sūbl'i getul—Not boy to-fear). 'Don't be afraid, boy.'

13. *Skūldrūm kadyog nap* (skuldrum kad'og nap—To-burn stone white). 'Burning lime.'

14. *Mūēnya grādnī, nijesh grādnī thōrī-in* (mwēn'a grādni nīd'eš grādni tōrī(in)—Last Saturday not Saturday coming). 'Last Saturday, not next Saturday.'

15. *Mūlsha sunīd glox rilhū inoḡin kadyogs asthūrth the skruḡ and jūmikin* (mwīlša sūni(d) glox rilū inoḡ(in) kad'ōg(s) astūrt (the) skraḡo (and) d'umik(in)—I see-d man mad, 'thing'-ing stones in the bush and cursing). 'I saw the [read, a] madman throwing stones into the bush and cursing.'

16. *Nūs a Dhalyōn, mislī* (nūs a' Dāl'on misli—Blessing of-the God go). 'By the help of God, I'll go.'

17. *Thom graḡū, nijesh mūlsha kradyī* (tom graḡu nīd'eš mwīlša krad'i—Big hurry not I to-wait). 'Great hurry, I can't wait.'

18. *Get swiblī, gami glox gruḡ dhī-īl* (get sūbl'i, g'ami glox gruḡ dī'l—Stop boy bad man shoot thou). 'Stop, boy, the bad man will shoot you.'

19. *Nijesh mislī gruḡasha dhī-īl* (nīdeš misli gruḡa [s'ē] dī'l—Not to-go will shoot he thou). 'Don't go, he'll shoot you.'

20. *Bog sik granlum*. 'Get some condiment.'

21. *Stēsh thāp minārth* (stēš tāp min'ūrt—Yes-is alive now). 'Faith, he's alive now.'

22. *Glox, lask gwīsh* (lāsk gwīš). 'Man, light the straw.'

23. *Glox srenthū a thāsp* (glox srentu [a] tarsp—Man raving in death). 'Old¹ man raving in death.'

24. *Krish karb roidyō gāt lakīn* (kriš karb rud'u gāt lakīn—Old hag sweethearting young girl). 'The old woman courting like a young girl.' Probably the English *like a*, or the Shelta *arēk*, has accidentally dropped out before *gāt*.

25. *Dhalyōn awārth stēsh shīka nīdyas* (Dāl'on awá'rt stēš šikr nīd'a(s)—God one yes-is three persons). 'Three Persons and one God.'

26. *Binī sharog lakīn mūnī spūrķera* (b'in'i šarog lakīn mun'i spurķ'ra—Little red girl good meretrix). 'The little red[-haired] girl is a fine flirt.'

27. *Sharū olsk ād* (šaru olsk ād—Quarter after two). 'A quarter past two.'

¹ This is as printed: but *glox* here should be *g'ūkh*, as one of the notebooks shews. Otherwise there is no justification for 'old'.

28. *Korī in the mamerum, sik nīdya grāfsha* (kōri (in the) mam'rum, sik nīd'a grāfša—Foot in the room some person ghost). 'A foot in the room, some person haunting the place.'

29. *Nūrth, Nyēthus, glox granhēs thōman* (n'urt, N'ētas, glox grani(s) tōmān—Now, James, man knows too-much). 'Now, Jimmy, the man knows too much.'

30. *Nījesh grabaltha thrīpus in glox* (nīd'eš grābalta trīpus [in] glox—Not enabled to fight the man). 'I'm not able to fight the man.'

31. *Thōman guredh, thōman kiēnthīs, thōman grāg grē swūrth* (tōmān gored, tōmān k'enti(s), tōmān grāg' grē swurt—Too-much money too-much houses too-much streets to-rise up). 'Too much wealth, too many houses, too many streets sprung up.'

32. *Mūlsha shkimashk, mīdril a milk gamier the glox* (mwilša škimišk, mīdril (a) milk g'ami(er) (the) glox—I drunk devil a bit worse the man). 'I am drunk, but devil a bit the worse man for that.'

33. *Get grimsha thōriin, guōp grimsha misliin* (get' grimšer tōri(in) gwōp grimšer misli(in)—Hot time coming, cold time going). 'Hot weather [summer] is coming, cold weather [winter] is going.'

34. *Stēsh charp minkur bīōer, granhē her grēdhurn* (stēš d'arp mink'er-b'ōr', grani (her) grēdan—Yes-is real tinker-woman know her face). 'That's a true tinker woman, I know by her face.'

35. *Mūgathon nījesh granīs mūlsha* (mugatān nīd'eš grani(s) mwilša—Fool not knows I). 'The fool does not understand me.'

36. *Gorī stūrt dhī-īl myiskon* (gori sturt dī'l m'iskon). 'Cover up your breast.'

37. *Ax! Gison, būga dhū guredh gyē Sibbi guvéux grostār* (Ax G'ison buga [tū] gored g'e Sibi [go bhēadh] grāsta—Oh John will-give thee money with S. till you-are satisfied). 'Ah John, I will give you money with Sibbie until you are pleased.' [A rare example of Irish auxiliaries being preferred to English.]

38. *Nījesh mūlsha medherī, medherī dūlsha* (nīd'eš mwilša med'ri, med'ri dīlša—Not I carry carry thou). 'I won't carry it, carry it you.'

39. *Thōriin mūēnya mūlsha* (tōri(in) mwēn'a mwilša—Coming after me). 'Following me.'

40. *Gothena gēg'd mūlsha axīm to myausō* (gāt'na g'ēg(d) mwilša axīm (to) m'āuso—Youth asked I out to dance). 'The young one asked me out to dance.'

41. *Stēsh ād gloxhē thāral* (stēš ād gloxi tāral—Yes-is two men talking). 'There are two men talking.'

42. *Dūlsha thāri gāmi labūrth?* (dīlša tāri g'ami laburt—You say bad swear). 'Did you say a bad curse?'

43. *Krish gyukera have mūni Sheldrū* (kriš g'ūk'ra (have) mun'i Šeldru—Old beggar have good Shelta). 'Old beggars have good Shelta.'

44. *Glōrhī bīōr-skēv* (Glōr'i b'ōr'-skev—Hear woman-fish). 'Listen to the fishwife.'

45. *Grē and mislī, stēsh nedhas a mīdril* (grē (and) misli, stēš n'edas-[a']-mīdril—Rise and go yes-is place-of-the-devil). 'Rise and be off, this is a devil's place' [rather 'the devil's place, hell'].

46. *Mwīlsha's bīōr thāsp'd aḡēr* (mwīlša'(s) b'ōr' tarsp(d) aḡēr—I's woman died last-night). 'My wife died last night.'

47. *Nījesh stamara* (nīd'eš stam'ra). 'Don't spit.'

48. *Nījesh thwurl your grūber* (nīd'eš tul (your) gruber—Not worth your work). 'Not worth your notice.'

49. *Mūlsha lī nedhas a dhalōn* (mwīlša lī n'edas-[a']-Dāl'on—I bed place-of-the-God). 'My bed and lodging in heaven.' [For *mūlsha* we should read *mūlsha's*: *lī*=bed, but there is no word for 'lodging', which should be expunged from the translation. N'edas-a'-Dāl'on means 'Heaven' (compare n'edas-a'-mīdril in 45, above), and the sentence means 'Heaven is, or may Heaven be, my bed.']

50. *Gushin nedhas a shīrk* (guš(in)-n'edas [a] širk—Sitting-place in field). 'Sitting on the grass.'

51. *Chinoḡ awarths lorsp'd, the gāthēna's rīpuḡin' and grūberin'* (t'inoḡ awárt'(s) lōsp(d) the) gāt'na'(s) rīpuḡ(in and) gruber(in)—Thing one's married the youth's playing-the-meretrix and working). 'One's married, the young one's carrying on and working.'

52. *Nedhas aḡim in the shkiblin* (n'edas aḡim (in the) škiblin—Place outside in the barn). 'A lodging out in the barn.'

53. *Nurth get in gather* (nurt get [in] gāter). 'Now, leave the beer.'

54. *Solt, skait, and surt* (salk(t) skāi(t) surk(t)). 'Arrested, transported (lit. "watered") and hanged.'

55. *Get mūlsha sunī* (get mwīlša sūni—Stay I see). 'Wait till I see.'

56. *Mūlsha's mūni grau* (mwīlša's mun'i grā—I's good love). 'My best love.'

57. *Grīchas asthūrt, nījesh mislī asthūrt the kīēna* (Grit'aθ astūrt, nīd'eš misli astūrt (the) k'ēna—Sickness inside, not to-go inside the house). 'Sickness inside, don't go into the house.'

58. *Klisp'n thalósk, soon be ludhus thōrī-in stūrt the grenōg* (klisp(in) talosk (soon be) ludus tōri(in) sturt (the) grin'óg—Breaking day, soon be light coming into the window). 'Day is breaking, light will soon be coming through the window.'

59. *Mūlsha's grostār to sunī dhī-īlsha rāgli* (mwilša('s) grāsta (to) sūni dī'lša rāgli—I's satisfied to see thee to laugh). 'I am pleased to see you laugh.'

60. *Lesk mūlsha and mūlsha lesk dhī-īlsha* (l'esk mwilša (and) mwilša l'esk dī'lša—Tell me and I tell you). 'Tell me, and I'll tell you.' Probably what the speaker said was mwilša('ll) l'esk, the three l's having fallen together.

61. *Stēsh bīor yīlsha* (stēš b'ōr' (dh)'ilša—Yes-is woman you). 'There's your woman.' [This is an unusual case of the Irish lenition following a feminine noun—the only case of a recognition of grammatical gender to be found in the recorded specimens of the language.]

62. *Rinshkal nīdēsh minūrt* (Rinškal nīd'eš min'urt—A-sieve-maker not now). Translated 'Sieve-makers are nothing nowadays', but more probably meaning 'There is no such thing as a sieve-maker now'.

63. *Mūlsha grēdhi mi lī nedhas in this lūr* (Mwilša grēdi (my) lī-n'edas (in this) luk—I make my bed-place in this corner). 'I'll make my bed in this corner.'

64. *Gamiest od gamī lakīn thribli mūlsha ever sunī'd* (G'ami(est) od g'ami lakīn tribli mwilša (ever) sūni(d)—Worst two bad girl family I ever see-d). 'The worst family of two daughters I ever saw.'

65. *I sunī'd the gothena spūrkin axtm aẖér* ((I) sūni'd (the) gāt'na spurk(in) axim aẖér—I see-d the youth playing-the-meretrix outside last-night). 'I saw the younger one carrying on outside yesterday.' [The translations of this and the preceding sentence are slightly euphemistic.]

66. *Nījesh stafa būga dhī-īlsha* (nīd'eš stafa būga dī'lša—I not ever will-give thee). 'I'll never give it you.'

67. *Rabin's nūp surẖa medherin lamẖa* (Rābīn('s) nup surẖa med'r(in) lamẖa—Mary's back tired carrying bag). 'Mary's back's tired carrying (the) bag.' Probably the speaker said nup('s) surẖa, the two s's having run together.

68. *Mūnkerī nīdyas sheb gamī guredh 'Donovan'* (munk'ri-nīd'a(s) šeb g'ami gored D.—Country-persons call bad money D.). 'The country people call a bad coin "a Donovan".'

69. *Gorī mūlsha sik* (*gori mwilša sik*). 'Give me some.'

70. *Thom kamera šūral gamī grīchath* (*tom kam'ra-šural g'ami grīt'aθ*)—Big dog running bad sickness). 'The big racing dog [=greyhound] (has some) bad sickness.'

71. *Geth in glox* (*get [in] glox*)—Leave the man). 'Let the old man be.' [For *glox* read *g'ūk*, as in no. 23 above.]

72. *Mūlsha gamī in grīt šīkr grathon, my krish karb gamī minyārth, mūlsha's kam and the bōr nījesh thōri'd to sunī my dyīl* (*Mwilša ga'mi (in) grīt' šīkr graxton, (my) kriš karb g'ami min'urt, mwilša(s) kam (and the) b'ōr' nīd'eš tōri(d) to sūni (my) d'il*)—I bad in sick[ness] three week my old hag bad now I's son and the woman not come-d to see my self). 'I've been very ill these three weeks, my old woman is ill now, my son and his wife never come [misprint for *came*] to see me.' [Probably we are to read *grīt'aθ*; the *θ*, if pronounced in a slightly sibilant way, might be lost before the following *š*.]

73. *Lūsh goštya of the stīma* (*luš gošt'a (of the) st'ima*)—Drink plenty of the pipe). 'Have a good suck at the pipe.'

74. *Ax, Hibbi, ke nyīpa thū, Hibbi? O gather, gwilyin nāsdēsh—A chērpa thū mwog's nyuk?*—*Mūlsha sunīd nījesh mwog's nyuk, gather.* (*Ax Hibi, ke n'īpa tū, Hibi—O gāter, gwil'i(in) nasd'ēš—A t'ērpa tū mwog(s) n'uk? Mwilša sūni(d) nīd'eš mwog(s) n'uk, gāter—O Sibbie, where are you, Sibbie?—O father, lying here.—Have you cooked [or, will you cook] (the) pig's head?—I saw no pig's head, father). 'Ah! Sibbie, where are you, Sibbie? O father, lying down. Have you cooked the pig's head? I never saw the pig's head, father.'* [*Hibi* is vocative of *Sibi*, no. 37.]

75. *Nūlsk you sunī mūlsha? Axāram?* (*Nulsk (you) sūni mwilša? Axāram?*). 'When [will] you see me? To-morrow?'

76. *Gop gradhum shedhīs getūl and nījesh a nark, sūnal od sharker mūnīāth or gamīāth thōris šīrth* (*Gop gradum šedi(s) getul (and) nīd'eš (a) nāk', sūnal od šark(er), mun'iaθ (or) g'amiaθ tōri(s) širt*)—Poor soul stands frightened and not a stitch, seeing two-cutter, goodness or badness goes down). 'The poor soul stands naked and afraid, watching the scales to see whether the good or evil weighs the heavier.'

77. *Sunī got lakin, od miskōn axīm, nīdēsh gotherin, nīdēsh inoxin miskōn* (*Sūni gāt lakīn, od m'iskon axīm, nīd'eš gāt'rin, nīd'eš inox(in) m'iskon*)—See young girl, two breast outside not a-child, not 'thing'ing breast). 'Look at the young girl with her two breasts out; she has no child, so she's not been giving it the breast.'

78. 'Lūgil aḡim dhī-īl grēdhī about mūtīlsha's gulimas', thāri'd the gloḡ thāsp, 'athōmier than gulimas a gloḡ ērpa?'—and he bḡg'd a milk of his dīl by the kōrīs, and klisp'd his nyuk swūrth the klaitthon a nedhas ladhū (Lugil aḡim dī'l grēdi (about) mwīlša('s) gulima(s), tāri(d the) gloḡ tarsp atōm(ier than) gulima(s a) gloḡ ērpa? (and he) bog(d a) milk (of his) d'īl (by the) kōri(s and) klisp(d his) n'uk swurt (the) klaiton [a'] n'edas ladu—Shout out you make about I's boots said the man dead, more than boots [of] a man other: and he took a bit of his self by the legs and broke his head upon the wall of-the-place-[of]-earth). "What alarm do you make about my boots", said the corpse, "more than about another man's boots?" and he caught him by the legs and dashed his brains out against the wall of the graveyard.'

It is hardly necessary to duplicate in this way the remainder of the sentences in this collection; the above will suffice to illustrate the formulae of phonetic representation here adopted, and to indicate the method by which the speakers of the language convey the sense which they intend. The following are given as written and translated by Dr Sampson: borrowings from English are printed, as he prints them, in ordinary type, Shelta words in italics. The translation is free in one or two cases, the phrases being rather too free (in another sense) for literal rendering.

PROVERBS

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|--|---|
| 79. <i>Stīmera dhī-īlsha, stīmera¹
aga dhī-īlsha.</i> | If you're a piper, have your
own pipe. |
| 80. <i>Gloḡ nīdēsh a gloḡ rāks
abūrth² od grifin.</i> | A man's no man at all with-
out two coats. |
| 81. <i>Thōman thāral and nījesh
mūnīāth.</i> | Much talk and no good. |
| 82. <i>Kūldrūm nījesh spūrkū.</i> | <i>Recumbere non est coire.</i> |
| 83. <i>Bīder medheris gīder.</i> | The woman wears the breeks. |
| 84. <i>Sūnal chima in tharpōn, binī
mūnīāth, binī gamīāth.</i> | Like a chip in porridge, small
good and small ill. |
| 85. <i>Nap grēdhūrn ḡurī nījesh
munī.</i> | A white-faced horse is never
any good. |
| 86. <i>Mwik bīōrs nījesh nyēfn.</i> | Connaught women have no
shame. |
| 87. <i>Sūgū thōris, mūtīlsha mislī
glīēt thom to loban.</i> | War is coming, I'll be off to
my cabin in the mountains. |

¹ Probably a slip for *st'īma*.

² Probably we should read *abūrt rāks* ('at-all without').

88. *Mislō granhēs thāber.* The traveller knows the road.
 89. *Thom Blörnē nījesh Nīp glox.* Every¹ Protestant isn't an Orangeman.

WISHES GOOD AND EVIL

90. By the holy *Dhalyōn, sōblī,* By the holy God, fellow, I'll
 I'll solk your *gradhum!* have your life!
 91. *Gamī grau* to that *glox.* Bad luck to that man!
 92. *Dályon mislī* with you, *swiblī.* God go with you, boy.
 93. *Dhuīlsha kurog* for *glox.* [Insult.]
 94. *Nūs a Dhályon dhuīlsha.* The blessing of God on you.
 95. *Mislī, gamī grā dhī-īl!* Be off, and bad luck to you!
 96. *Lūsh my kunya lyē smolkera.* [Insult.]
 97. *Gāp my thūr.* [Insult.]
 98. *Nūs-a-Dhalyōn mwīlsha hāvarī.* God bless our home.
 99. *Spürk dhī-īlsha!* [Insult.]
 100. *Labūrth shelthū a Dhalyōn dhī-īl!* The seven curses of God on you.

(γ) SHELTA STORIES

I. *Glox sharog na Srōinya*

(a) *Dūīlsha axīver glōrhi Glox Sharog na skai Srōinya?* Grēs swūrth *chal* the *skai* when a *glox's misliin'* to *sahu* his *dīl*. *Gyetas a gyetas* and *thribli grīn-thala sūni* his *dīl*, *gramal glox sharog, rīlthug sūlya nyuk.*

(b) *Thaloskawārth, larkr shēb'd Sharkey misliin' swūrth lim a Srōinya, sūni'd sharog glox, chal swūrth skai. Sūni'd and thari'd nīdesh. Larkr sūni'd od-lim* to *sūni* some *nīdya skai* his *dīl*. *Nīdesh nīdya. Nūrth grē'd swūrth od thwūrkh, thari'd 'Nījesh thōri!' and misli'd shīrth* the *skai yīrth. Grē'd swūrth shīka thwūrkh, gorri'd swūrth mālya warth, and thari's 'Simajswūrth; glox nījesh thōriin'!* 'Nurth *larkr sūni'd glox shurrat thom, nap'd*

The Red Man of the Boyne

Did you ever hear of the Red Man of the river Boyne? He rises half out of the water when a man's going to drown himself. Scores and scores and families of friends have seen him, like a red man, with a sheet around his head.

One day a tailor named Sharkey, walking by the bank of the Boyne, saw the Red Man, half out of the water. He [the Red Man] looked and said nothing. The tailor looked each way to see some person drown himself. There was nobody. Now he [the Red Man] rose up a second time, and said, 'Not come yet!' and sank down again into the water. He rose a third time, put up one hand and says, 'Time's up, and the

¹ Better, 'Many a'.

a grifin, and goihe'd on the thöber. Larkr misli'd swürth, granhēin' the glox, and bug'd a milk of his dīl.

(c) 'Car dhī-īlsha misliin'?' 'Get mī-īlsha! nījesh sūmaj to kraji.' 'Kradyi, my mūni glox.' 'Nījesh thari dhī-il!' Larkr bug'd a milk of the glox ayīrth, stēsh thom thrīpus lim a skai. Larkr löber'd glox shīrth od thwürk, and shika thwürk glox gwili'd on thöber. 'What's to grēdhi with dhī-il? Do you granhē mīdhril thōri'd for dhī-il?' larkr thari'd. Glox goḡ gorri'd swürth od mālya, thariin' stafaris. 'Nūs a Dhalyon! Bug mūilsha gather skai!' 'Thōri swürth ken gather' larkr thari'd glox. 'Bug dhī-il slunya skai-hōp.' Sroidyan axárram, glox bug'd larkr od nūmpa.

(d) Thalosk ērpa, gushin' lim slarskr skai, mū-īlsha and glox slarskr thariin' of thrīpusin' gloxis. Nūrth glox slarskr sūni'd glox sharog stūrth skai. 'Stēsh minūrth a sahu!' and he sūni'd glox swūdhāl rilhu—stēsh glox radhum—shurral thom shīrth skai. 'Get swibli, get! Sūni in glox-swūdhāl sahu his jīl!' Glox misli'd shurral, thariin' gami lūbas a mīdhril, and misli'd shlīm stūrth skai. Mū-īlsha nap'd my grifin and gulimas. Glox slarskr būg'd a milk of my dīl. 'Kradyi!' he thari'd, 'Kradyi mūilsha. Sūni mūilsha grēthi.' 'Glox be sahuū.'

man's not coming!' Now the tailor saw a man in a great hurry, who took off his coat and threw it on the road. The tailor went up, knowing the man, and caught hold of him.

'Where are you going?' 'Let me go! I haven't a minute to wait.' 'Hold on, my good man.' 'I have nothing to say to you!' The tailor caught hold of the man again, and there was a great fight on the bank of the river. The tailor floored the man three times, and three times the man lay on the ground. 'What's the matter with you? Do you know that the devil came for you?' said the tailor. The poor man put up both hands, saying his prayers. 'For God's sake, give me a drink of water.' 'Come down to the inn', said the tailor to the man, 'and I'll give you a glass of whisky.' Next morning the man gave the tailor two pounds.

Another day, sitting by the river lock, I and the lock gate-man were talking of [famous] fighting men. Now the gate-man saw the Red Man in the water. 'Now for a drowning!' [he said]: and he saw a mad gentleman (he was a soldier) hurrying into the water. 'Hold on boy, hold on! Watch this gentleman drown himself!' The man came rushing on, saying bad words of the devil, and went with a leap into the water. I took off my coat and boots, but the gate-man caught hold of me. 'Wait!' he said, 'wait for me. See what I'll do!'

'Nīdesh! Get! Nījesh misli stūrth till mūlsha lesk you. Nurth bŭg sūrthū; stēsh thardyr mīdhril!' Glox swūdhal misli'd shūrth od thwūrkh thūsr an skai, jūmmikin' gami lūbas, thariin' a mīdhril. Nūrth the glox slarskr shlīm'd asthūrt and bŭg'd a milk of his dīl, solk'd mālya, lōber'd glox swūdhal, gorri'd him on his nūp, and solk'd his dīl lim a skai. Mūlsha solk'd glox swūdhal on ladhu. Shika gloxi misli'd shurriin', chollin' glox-swūdhal rilhu. 'Goihe his dīl' glox slarskr tharis mīlsha. 'Thōri mīlsha, and suni thōman gurredh we bŭg.' Misli'd shūrth ken thom. 'Nūrth this glox and mūlsha solk'd him axīm skai' glox slarskr tharis, 'Bug mūlsha shūka nūmpa', 'Nīdesh a skur-rig!' yēdug tharis, 'Mūlsha bŭg dhī-il od thwūrkh or shika thwūrkh if dhī-ilsha bŭg him to tharsp.' Būer-swūdhal shērku na slī, getūl a gather rilhū.

(e) Stēsh glox bog'd ar-mislo thwūrkh mūēnya aytrth and skai'd his dīl. Od thwūrkh sahu'd; glox slarskr nyēsh naper'd his dīl.

(f) Lim a Srōinya thoman nīdyas misli rilhū. Goshta rilhū nīdyas, gāt lakins and gāt swiblis, stēsh and krish gloxi and krish karbs mukinya lim a Srōinya. Lashulest nedhas you could misli, skai and slūfa and ken thoms—stēsh grēdhis nīdyas rilhū.

'But the man will be drowned.' 'No! wait! don't go into the water till I tell you. Now he's getting tired. Sure he's a strong devil!' The gentleman sank twice to the bottom of the river, cursing out bad words, talk of the devil. Then the gate-man jumped in and caught hold of him, took his hand, and struck the gentleman [insensible], carried him on his back, and took him to the river-bank. I lifted the gentleman on land. Three men came running, following the mad gentleman. 'Leave him there', the gate-man says to me. 'Come with me, and let's see how much money we get.' We went down to the great house. 'Now this man and myself got him out of the water', says the gate-man; 'give us five pounds.' 'Not a farthing!' the lady says, 'but I'd have given it to you two or three times over if you had let him drown.' The lady was his daughter-in-law, and she lived in dread of her mad father.

The same man escaped again on a later occasion and threw himself into the water, and on the second time he was drowned: the lock gate-man never interfered with him.

By the bank of the Boyne many people go mad. Numbers of mad people, young girls and boys, yes and old men and women too, dwell near the Boyne. It's the loveliest place where you could walk, with water and wood and houses of great folks; but it drives people mad.

2. *Od Minkur Kunyas*

(a) *Od minkur, münni thariers of staffri, misli'd through the münkera, where they were nījesh granhē'd, tharal they were od klisþ kunyas. Stēsh od nyark minkur. Od bŭg'd gashta grīnlesk, stēsh glūtug, stēsh and bug'd goshta lūog. Kunya-a-rabbister glōrhe'd the od nyark, shēb'd them chūrperas, tharal 'Mwī-īl thori asthurt their nedhers to sūnni their dīls.' The swīblis and gloxis thari'd gami of the kunya for nappin' with their dīls, lesk'd od klisþ kunyas kunya-a-rabbister thōri olomi ahūnshk. Minkur thari'd 'Mwīlsha grostar to sūnni the kunya.' Stē-esh gredhe'd nīd'has munnier grostar. (Nūrth the od nyark minkurs grostar to be gyeta līman ar-mislo, getterl kunya and stēsh nīd'has.)*

(b) *Nūrth they misli'd tharain' staffaris. Grag was thāon nīd'has, kīēna bwikadh nīdesh thomier. Chinnoχ-awārth minkur thari'd kunya's tharal: 'Oχ! gettūl ar mo thūr-sā. Oχ! gettūl ar mo thūr-sā.' Sharkar kunya thari'd, lōber'n' his grīsh, athōmier gredhiin' aχīm he was sraiχa: 'Mūlsha arārck! mūlsha arārck!' grassiin' nīd'has lye charp staffris.*

The Two Tinker Priests

Two tinkers, good sayers of prayers, travelled through the country, where they were not known, giving out that they were two suspended (lit. broken) priests. They were, however, two rogues of tinkers. The pair got plenty of flax and wool, and also plenty of meal. The parish priest heard of the two rogues, and called them impostors, saying: 'I am coming to their lodgings to see them.' The boys and men spoke ill of the priest for meddling with them, and told the two suspended priests that the parish priest was coming next night. The tinkers said, 'We shall be pleased to see the priest', and this made the people still more delighted. (Now the two tinker rogues would have been glad to have been twenty miles away for fear of the priest and the people too.)

Now they went on saying their prayers. The road was full of people and the houses could hold no more. One tinker would say, pretending to talk Latin (lit. priest's language), *Oχ! gettūl¹ ar mo thūr-sa*. His brother priest would say, beating his breast and making out that he was the clerk, *Mūlsha arārck!* ['I'm the same!'] charming the people with their fine prayers.

¹ *Ar mo* is Irish. The point of the story lies in the superstitious fear formerly inspired by an unfrocked priest, who, having by his profession acquired the secrets of Heaven, and by his misdemeanours sold himself to the devil, had at his disposal the supernatural powers of both departments of the unseen world. The bogus priest's "prayer" means, in essence, "I'm afraid for my"—[appropriate place for being kicked].

(c) *Sroiġan misli'd and lyesk'd* the *nīd'has*, '*Mūlsha thōri agrēsh ōlomi aḡarrm'*, *goiḡe'd grīnlesk, klūtya, lūog, shūkr numpā thwūrl, mūēna, nīdēsh thōri'd aḡiver.*

3. *Karb a Thriblī*

(a) *Thōriin agrēsh* the *grīn-thus thalosk awārth, thōriin aḡim Skaithwūrd, mūlsha sunī'd* a *krish karb skimashk*, a *bini lakin swūrth karb's nup—sheb'd* her *Rab—od kōrī shīrth* her *miskon.*

(b) *Stēsh od thāri* in *Sheldrū. Mūlsha kradyi'd* a *milk, glōrhī-in karb* and *bini lakin thāral. Gothena thāri'd* as *mūni Sheldrū* as *krish karb: grē'd swūrth arārk.*

(c) *Mūlsha misli'd shlug* to *glōrhī sik* of their *swūrth-amunkeri Sheldrū. Stēsh* same *rark a thāral. Misli'd shlug, glōrhīin* their *thāral.*

(d) *Krish* and *gāt misli'd* *asthūrt ken-gather. Karb thōri'd* at my *kōris. Thōriin asthūrt, bini lakin malyas nyakerlt karb's grēdhūrn, lober't goiḡera's nyuk a rudhus, shlug'd* her *aḡim shlōhya, goiḡin' her dīl that nedhers chal karrib'd, and gush'd shīrth* the *mamerum gather. Sunī'd* her *malya. Thanyuk.*

(e) '*Mārro thanik üggum, buggama³ slunya.*' Then, in *Palanthus*: '*O gloḡ thom, bug* the *krish karb thanyuk, nūs-a-Dhalyōn!*'

In the morning they went away, and told the people they would return the next night, left flax, wool, and meal, five pounds' worth, behind them, and returned no more.

The Grandmother of the Family

Coming back from the fair one day, coming from Waterford, I saw an old woman drunk, a little girl across the old woman's back—she called her Mary—her two feet across her breast.

Those two were talking Shelta. I stopped a little, listening to the old woman and the little girl talking. The child spoke as good Shelta as the old woman: grew up that way.

I went slowly to listen to some of their up-country¹ Shelta. Just the same sort of talk.² I went slowly, listening to their talk.

Old and young went into a public house, the old woman coming at my heels [lit. feet, or legs]. Going in, the little girl's hands clasping the old woman's neck, she struck the child's head on the door and threw her out [on the] ash-heap, leaving her half-killed there, and sat down in the tap-room. She looked at her hand: a halfpenny [was there].

'If I had [another] halfpenny, I should get a glass.' Then, in English: 'O big man, give the poor old woman a halfpenny, for the love of God.'

¹ I.e. Munster.

² Scil. 'as I was accustomed to'.

³ Properly *boga mē*, 'I shall get'. [*Mē*=Irish first personal pronoun.]

(f) 'Nījesh.' 'Aχ! Minkur hū?' 'Nījesh minkur.' 'In stīmera hū?' 'Nījesh stīmera.' 'Rinshkal hū?' 'Nījesh rinshkal.' 'Nījesh gyukera hū?' 'Nījesh a gyukera.'

(g) *Karb lūggd aχīm: 'Ke nyīpa hū, Rabin, O!' 'Aχīm ara χarnan snēli: klispa hu my nyuk, natherum thom, thōrīn' asthūrt the rudus.'*

(h) 'Dhalyon swuther, noχ mīdher mūlsha!'—'Stesh, rī-mīdher!'

(i) 'Thōrī asthūrt, Rabin, O!' *Karb lyag her thāral. 'Aχ, Minkur hū?' [etc.]. Dhalyon swūrt! Rī-mīdher's karb!*

(j) *Thom munkera-gloχ lushin' a slunya gather, thōrīn' grēsh na grīnthus: 'Lush swūrt, swūbli! Karb's kam's thōrīn' minurth, skimashk. Gami thribli: thripus karb karribin' and lushin' the olomy. Grē swūrt dhī-īlsha! Mislī!'*

(k) *Mūlsha salt gloχ's lubha, and stēsh mislī'd. 'Gāt gloχ, stēsh a gransha in the munkera: granī dhī-īl's thāral a luthera. Stēsh gamī McDonaghs', gloχ lyesk'd: 'stēsh krish karb natherum thom a thribli, and the gamiest krish karb grē the karribin of the thribli,' gloχ lyesk'd. 'Aχīm o' the mīdher, gamiest. They'll be thōrīn' from the grīnthā skimashk. Dhī-īlsha the*

'No!' [I answered, in Shelta]. 'What, are you a tinker?' 'I am no tinker.' 'Are you a piper?' 'I am no piper.' 'Are you a sievemaker?' 'I am no sievemaker.' 'You are not a beggar?' 'I am not a beggar.'

The old woman called out: 'Where are you, Mary?' 'Out on the heap of rushes: you broke my head, grandmother, coming inside the door.'

'God Almighty, am I not a devil!' 'You are—a king-devil!'

'Come in, Mary, O!' The old woman forgot her talk. [She again asked for a half-penny in English, and I refused in Shelta.]¹ 'What, are you a tinker?' [and so forth]. Almighty God! The king-devil's old woman!

A big countryman drinking a glass of ale, coming back from the fair. [He said] 'Drink quickly, lad! The old woman's son is coming [back] now, drunk. A bad lot—fighting, killing, stealing, and drinking the night. You get up! Be off!'

I took the man's word [advice], and went off. 'Young man, you're a stranger in the country: I know your northern speech. Those are the bad McDonaghs', the man said, 'and the old woman is the grandmother of the family, and the worst old woman of the lot to raise the fighting', the man said. 'Except the devil, the worst. They'll be coming from

¹ Interpolation in English in the Shelta text.

gōt-i < *tug*, lōb-er < *buail*, rāg-li < *gāire*. In tal-ósk < *lāithe* there is reversal after de-aspiration, with an added suffix. Compare t'irp-ōg < *ceart* (P < K).

Reversal after various substitutions is illustrated by: gox' < *fag* (χ < F); gop < *bocht* (G < χT); kriš < *sean* (KR < N); ladu < *talamh* (D < T, *amh* de-nasalized); lutram < *meirdreach*, in which so much substitution has taken place that the word is hardly recognizable; naper < *rāmhan* (P < MH); sakel < *leagadh* (K < G, S < DH).

In nīp < *buidhe* we have a rare case of nasalization following de-aspiration preceding reversal (N < D < DH).

IV. VOCABULARY

The following is the arrangement of the vocabulary. The alphabetical order is a ā â b b' c d d' e ē f g g' h i i k k' χ l l' m m' n n' o ō p p' r r' s š t t' θ u ū v w y. The references, α, β, γ, are to the specimens of the language printed above. The word is spelt on the phonetic principles already laid down. After the standardized spelling comes the meaning, followed by the renderings of different collectors, examples of the use of the word, and the etymology, when that can be identified (B-L = Bog-Latin, Chap. IV).

A

- 1 a, an The English indefinite article. An inoc li (G) 'another one' = *An inoχ* [e]la.
 - 2 a The English preposition o' = 'of'. *Trīp a gāter* 'a sup of drink'.
 - 3 a The Irish definite article in the genitive case, a' = an = 'of the'. *Kam a k'ena* 'son of the house'.
 - 4 a The Irish interrogative prefix, a' = an n-: no English equivalent. Latin nonne, -ne. *A t'ērpa hū* 'will you cook?'
 - 5 a The Irish preposition i, a = 'in'. Also i. *Swurt a mun'iaθ* 'up in heaven' (α); *axtm a Skai-grūt* 'out in America'.
 - 6 a The conjunction 'and'. *G'et'as a g'et'as* 'scores and scores' (γ 1a).
 - 7 a The Irish possessive 'his', 'her'. *A grīfin* 'his coat' (γ 1b).
 - 8 a The Irish preposition a' = ag = 'at'. Prefixed to participles to denote continuous action in the present. *A krad'i* (α) 'standing'.
 - 9 a- The English prefix, as in 'a-float', 'a-dying'. Frequent in Shelta.
- abúrt (abúrth) 'at all'. See β 80. Irish ar bith [ər bíh].
 addis See n'edas.

aga (β 79): *aga dī'lša* = 'at thee', i.e. 'in thy hands' or 'possession'. Irish ag-a-t, the pronominal t being removed, the Shelta pronoun substituted, and the prepositional portion of the compound retained.

agétul 'afraid'. See **getul**.

agratis 'afraid', 'fear' (G). See **getul**.

agrěš 'backward': *tōri-in agrěš* 'coming back', 'returning' (γ 3a). Irish ar ais [ərás].

aid 'butter'. See **oid**.

ain 'one'. See **ēn**.

ainox 'a thing'. See **inox**.

aχ 'Oh!' 'alas!' 'indeed!' etc. Interjectional sound common to many languages, Irish, Romani, Russian, German, etc.

aχáram 'to-morrow'. *Sroid'an aχáram* 'to-morrow morning'; *olomi aχáram* 'to-morrow night'. Irish amáireach [əmár'aχ].

aχěr 'last night' (β 65). Irish arēir [ər'ēr].

aχim 'out', 'outside' (awhim G). Of rest: *aχim a Skai-grūt* 'out in America'. Of motion: *aχim k'en-gop* 'out of the poorhouse'.

1 aχiver 'before'. Irish roimh [rēv].

2 aχiver 'ever'. *Nīd'eš aχiver* 'never more'; *dī'lša aχiver glōri*, 'did you ever hear?' (γ 1a). Irish riamh [rīv].

aχónšk 'to-night' (ahunshk; achunsk G). *Olomi aχónšk* (γ 2a) means 'to-night', i.e. the night following the day of the speaker's statement. Irish anocht.

ala 'another'. Irish eile [el'ə]. See **ela**.

alamax 'milk'. See **elima**.

an 'of the'. Usually abbreviated to **a**' (see 3 a, above). Rarely in full, but *tūr an skai*, 'bottom of the river', occurs (γ 1d).

anált 'to wash' (L gives anālt 'to sweep', anālken (=anālk-in) 'washing'). Irish nighe [n'ī] 'washing' + participial suffix *al*.

and English conjunction, freely used.

1 ar 'on', 'upon'. Irish preposition ar, freely used: *ar a* 'on the'.

2 ar 'after'. Irish preposition iar, freely used, especially as in Irish to express perfective (cf. Anglo-Irish 'after going' = gone). *Ar mislō* 'gone': adverbially in *g'et'a líman ar-mislō* 'twenty miles away' (γ 2a); *ar gwil'o* 'having lain down', 'lying down' (β 4).

a-rárk 'similarly', 'in the same way' (arék(α), araik A). See **rāk**.

aráš 'back', 'backward'. Irish. The Shelta form is **agrěš**, q.v.

aréκ See **arárk**.

- arirt** 'again' (ariart G). Irish arís [ərís'].
aspra 'a sixpence' (G). Origin obscure: the Irish word is raol [rēl].
astúrt 'in', 'into' (astúrth, asthúrt, asthúrth). Used both of motion and of rest: the two senses will be found in β 57. See sturt. Irish isteach [is't'áχ].
aswúrt 'on', 'upon'. See swurt.
aširt 'down'. See širt.
atá'p 'alive'. See tãp.
atómier 'all the more', 'moreover' 'further' (γ 2b): used in the sense 'any more' (β 78). Comparative of torn 'great' (q.v.) with prefixed a.
awárt 'one'. See wart. Irish amháin.
awást 'away' (C). Irish a bhfad [awád].
ayen 'nine' (L). Irish naoi [nī].
ayírt 'again' (ayirth, ayirt C). See arirt. Irish arís [ərís']. Laisk my dheel and my dheel will laisk your gilhairt (G) is *L'esk my d'í'l and my d'í'l will l'esk your d'í'l ayírt* 'Tell me, and I will tell you again' [=in my turn].

Ā

- āvali, āvari** 'a town' (oura L, aavali, aavari C, veil N, owerá G). Compare elum: both forms probably from Irish baile [bal'ə]. *Āvari tom* 'a big town' (=Dublin). Dublin is also called *Āvari l'irk*, which does not mean (as might appear) 'witty town', but is a corruption of the Irish name Baile A'tha Cliath [b'lákl'ī].

Ā

- ād** 'two' (awd). See od.
ādi A gives *ā'di nyuk* 'on the head'. Not corroborated.

B

- bagail** 'taking', 'catching'. S'guidh a bagail ar mo ghil 'it is raining' (W), properly *skai a' bagail ar mo d'íl* 'Water a-catching of myself'. Perversion of Irish gabháil [gawál'] 'taking'.
balast 'hair' (ballast K). Romani bal + arbitrary syllable ast(?). But compare fualasg [B-L, no. 5].
bani 'meal' (K). Doubtful if true Shelta.
batoma 'a policeman' (bathoma K). Probably miswritten for gūtena, q.v.

- bilsag** 'lips', 'mouth' (K). Irish *bēal* [b'ēl] 'mouth' + meaningless syllable (?). Compare *beilflesg* [B-L, no. 9].
- binsi** 'wings' (K). *Binsi bēro* (K) 'a sailing ship' [*bēro* = 'ship' in *Romani*].
- bīn** 'great', 'good', 'grand' (bin K, been C). *Bīn-chit* 'a brooch' (bin + cant word); *bin-l'ūr* (bin-liuer K), also said to mean 'brooch', but *l'ūr* = 'money'; *bīn-lightie* 'daylight'; *bīn-lightment* 'Sunday' (both from K: bīn + cant words). Irish *mīn* [m'in] 'fine'.
- blaci** 'coal' (blatchi C, blatchy N). Probably cant, from English 'black'.
- bladunk** 'prison' (bladhunk L). Irish *braighdeánach* [brēīd'ā'nax] 'a captive', 'a prisoner' seems analogous.
- blaiki** 'a pot' (bláiky 'a tin vessel' N, blaikie 'a pot' K, blawkie 'a kettle' C). English 'blackie' (R).
- blānōg** 'a cow' (blan, blanag, blanig K, blānag W, blainteag K', blánóg brāingōg G). Irish *blēagnach* [bl'ēnax] 'act of milking'. Used abusively of a woman, β 7. *Blānōg-kar* 'ber' 'a cow-killer', 'butcher'; *b'in'i blānōg* (G) 'a calf'.
- blā** 'meal', 'oatmeal' (blaa, blaw C). Probably not true Shelta.
- bleater** 'a sheep' (G). English.
- blinkam** 'a candle'; **blinkie** 'a window'; **blinklum** 'light'. Factitious words from English 'blink' (K).
- blōrna** 'a Protestant' (blōrne: pornuc G), β 89.
- blyhunka** 'a horse' (L). Doubtful: not corroborated.
- bl'antax** 'a shirt' (bliantach K). Irish *lēine*, plur. *lēinteacha* [l'ēnə, l'ēnt'axa].
- bl'ūr** 'a young woman' (blewr, bloor C).
- bog** 'to get', 'find', in a large variety of senses: *bogh* (L). 'To learn' in β 1. *Bog ar-mislō* 'to escape', 'make off' (γ 1e); *to bog a milk of his d'ī'l* 'to get hold of him'; *bog mwīlša axīm g'amiaθ* 'take me out of, deliver me from, evil' (α): 'that bhogd [in first publication bhoghd] out yer mailya' 'you let that fall from your hand' (so in L) should be *that bogd out a' yer māl'a* 'that got out of your hand'. *Bag siort a leagauch mhin* 'go down, boy' (K) should be *bog širt a l'agax m'in* 'go down, little boy'. *Boga mē* 'I shall get' (written *buggama*, γ 3e). *Bog astūrt*, lit. 'to take in' = 'to assume'. *What munika did you bog astūrt?* 'What name did you assume?' L's *bog'hin brass* 'cooking food' needs corroboration. In the English sense of an auxiliary verb, *bogin surxa* 'getting tired' (γ 1d). Often confused with *bug*, Irish *gabh-* [gaw-], which has a similar range of meanings.

bonar 'good' (C). Probably cant, from French *bon*: not corroborated.

bord 'table' (L). Irish.

borer 'gimlet' (L). English or cant (Sampson).

bovi 'a bull' (K). Not corroborated.

brahan Mo bhrathan gan bhras air a chom, gun ghrad a bhagos e 'Me without food to-night, and I without money to buy it' (K') should be *mo bhrahan* ['myself?'] *gan* [Gaelic, 'without'] *brās* ['food'] *ar aχón* ['on to-night'] *gan goved* ['without money'] *a бага сē* ['that will get it']. The word *brathan* [**brahan**] is not elsewhere recorded.

brauen 'corn', 'grain' (bravan G). Also used to translate the tinker surname 'Oates'. Irish *arbhar* [arwar] 'corn'.

brās 'food' (braas, brass L, pras W, brás G). O'Reilly's dictionary of Irish gives *bras* 'bread, means of living' from an 'Old Glossary' unspecified.

brāsi 'to feed' 'dine' (braasi).

brikler 'a bowl', 'cup' (brickler C, briagalair K', brickcler 'a cup and saucer' C). English: see R, no. 110.

brod 'a house' (C).

brogies 'breeches' (C). Probably English.

bruskler 'a bowl' (K). Compare **brikler**.

bug 'to give'; in a variety of senses. *Can you bug Shelta?* (L) 'Can you talk Shelta?' *Bug me a gāp* 'Give me a kiss'; *buga* 'I will give' (β 37, 66). Irish *gabh*.

bul 'a crown', 'five shillings' (bool, bûl N, bull C). Cant, not Shelta.

bulla 'a letter', 'note' (L). Not Shelta.

bulscur 'wire' (G).

bura, **huri** 'great', 'fine', 'beautiful' (bori K, baro, bare, bawrie C, burry, buri G). Perhaps Romani *bāro*, but the first syllable is always written as with a short vowel.

buriaχt 'goodness', 'good'. *A gloχ is no buriaχt except he granis a buri gloχ* (G) 'a man is no good unless he knows a good man' [= has a good companion].

burik 'a table' (burrik). Irish *bord*.

bwikad 'to hold', 'contain', but with various meanings: *bwikadh* (γ 2b). *B'ōr' a k'ena bwikads the rīšpa* (G) 'the woman of the house wears the breeches'; *any inoχ you bwikad* (G) 'anything you like'. Irish *coimhēad* [kiwēd] 'keep', 'hold'.

bwikads 'a pair of pincers'.

B'

b'anag 'a coif' (beannag K').

b'ég 'to steal' (bióg, byüg, biyēg, biyēgh, biyēg L, begg G). Irish gabhaim 'to take'.

b'in'i 'little', 'small' (binni, binya: binny L, bini AG). *B'in'i tobair* 'a footpath'; *b'in'i súbli* 'a boy'. Also *b'in*; *l'agax b'in* 'small boy' (W). Irish min 'small'.

b'in'ian 'a little'.

b'in'iaθ 'smallness'.

b'ör 'a woman' (biör, biöder, būier: biuoer, beör C, bewr, bewer LL', biorr K', beor KW, bioer, biuoer F, beoir G). *B'ör a' k'ena* 'woman of the house'; *b. lugil* 'wailing woman', 'banshee'; *b. ar-mislō* 'wandering woman', 'female tramp'; *b. skēv* 'fishwife'; *b. srigo* 'queen'; *b. swuder* or *b. swudal* 'a high woman', 'lady'; *b. šēkr* 'a nun'; *b. mwīlša* 'my wife'; *b. yīlša* 'thy wife' (β 61). Irish bean [b'an]. The Scots Gaelic piuthair is a less likely source.

C

Except for the few loan-words given below, for words beginning with c see under k: for words beginning with ch see under d', t', or x.

cackler 'a duck' (G), 'an egg' (C). Also **cattler**. *Šelkin g'ami cattlers* 'selling bad eggs'. English.

cálra (c=č) 'a knife' (chali, chālra, cholra: cealrach, čarloc, čadlach G, chaldroch L). *Chālra gruber* 'knife-grinding' ('knife-grinder' in a MS. note, but **gruber** means 'work', not 'worker'). *Chālra šarku* 'cutting knife', 'a saw'. From Romani čuri.

cid (c=č) 'a lamb' (K). By R connected with English 'kid'.

cuk (c=č) 'credit'. Doubtless the English slang 'tick'.

D

dād'e 'bread' (dha'de A). Not corroborated.

dāl'on 'God' (dalon, dalyon, dālyon, dhalyōn, galyōn: dhāluin G). *D. swudr* 'God above!' 'God Almighty!'. *D. awárt stěš šīkr nīd'as* 'One God who is three persons'. *N'edas a Dāl'on* 'God's Place', 'Heaven'. *Dāl'on a ladū* 'Lord of the earth'. No satisfactory etymology has been suggested: hardly connected with Irish Día [d'ia] 'God', as the d is not palatalized.

dātair 'father' (datir, datair K). See **gāter**.

dēnoχ 'to lose' (dainoch L). Uncorroborated. Misli dainoch, said in L to mean 'to write a letter', 'send' or 'go', means properly *misli d'inoχ* 'to go to something' (*d'* = Irish preposition *do* 'to').

dil, **dī'l**, **dilša**, **dī'lša** (*duilsha*, *dūilsha*, *dhi-īlsha*). A combination of *do* [Irish possessive 'thy'] + *d'il*, q.v. The hard *d* replaces the palatalized *d* in the compound, which is the regular word for the second personal pronoun singular, 'thou', 'thee'. Genitive formed as in English; *dilša's munik* 'thy name' (α). Dative as nominative, *buga dilša* 'I will give you' (β66). Rarely used without the emphatic suffix *-ša*; apparently this is more frequent in the oblique cases: *dī'l* appears in α, and in β 36 in the sense 'thy', in β 18 in the sense 'thee'.

do 'two' (L). This and some other numeral forms given by L are Irish, and need not be inserted in this vocabulary.

dolimi 'dark of the night' (dholimi G). Probably *th'* [English 'the'] + *olomi*, q.v.

dolsk 'a Protestant' (G). Irish *gall* 'foreigner', 'protestant' + arbitrary *sk*.

dorahōg 'dusk', 'evening' (dorahoig G). *Bura d.* 'good evening!' A perversion of Irish *trāthnōna* [*trānōna*] 'evening' (?).

driper 'a bottle' (dreeper G).

dunik 'a cow' (dunnick, dunny C', *dun'nux* N).

dura 'bread' (*dōra*, *dūra*, *dorra*, *durra*, *dhurra*: *derra* L', *d'erri* L, *dora* G). *Dura gloχ* 'a baker'; *šark a' dura* 'a slice of bread'. Irish *arán* [ə'rā'n] reversed and de-nasalized.

D'

d'anadair 'a hammerer' (deannadair K'). Irish *geannaire* 'a hammer'.

d'aχag 'tired' (W). Perversion of Irish *tuirseach* [*tur's'aχ*] 'tired'.

d'arelallan 'an eye' (dearelallan K').

d'arp 'true', 'real', 'excellent': 'truth' (*charp*). *D'arp sl'ūχter* 'a good scholar'; *nīd'eš d'arp* 'that is not true'; *d'arp staf'ris* 'fine prayers'; *d'arp m'inker-b'ōr'* 'a true tinkler woman'. Irish *dearbh* [*d'arw*] 'right', 'true', 'real'.

i d'asag 'a person' (deasag W). *D. šean* 'a ragged person'; *d. tom* 'a great person'. Uncorroborated: probably by-form or perversion of *nīd'a*, q.v.

z d'asag 'two' (deasag K).

d'iger 'a door' (jigger G).

d'ima 'a stick' (chima, cima K, ch'immel L, chimmes (*plur.*) L, chimma G, chimi A). *D'ima t'ira* 'a match'; *d'ima de t'ira* 'a tongs' [de=Irish preposition, 'of', 'from']. Signifies 'a chip' in β 84. Irish maide [mad'ə] 'stick', 'rod'.

d'il, d'i'l A word apparently meaning 'self' or something analogous, exclusively used to form the personal pronouns (dyil, dil, deal L, jeel G). It is used either with the two Irish possessive pronouns mo ('my') and do ('thy'), or with any of the English possessive pronouns. Thus *mo d'il* [shortened into *mwil*] or *my d'il*; *dō d'il* (> *dil*) or *your d'il*: but only 'his d'il', 'her d'il', 'their d'ils'. *My d'il* is rarely used in the nominative; an example is *my d'il is misli'in* 'I am going' (L). Thōri my jeel (=tōri my d'il), translated 'Follow me' (G), is anomalous, as it makes tōri ('come') transitive.

d'ox In L we find dioch man krädyin in this nadas, translated 'I am staying here'. It is probably incorrect. Dioch may be *d'oč* miswritten for *d'ēš* (see nīd'eš), but this is doubtful: it may also be a misheard *glox*, if ch=χ and not č. 'Man' is unintelligible.

d'onādu 'to go' (jonādu).

d'orker 'tin' (diorcar K). See **yergan**.

d'umik 'to swear' (jūmik, jūmnik; jummik [γ ɪ d]). Irish mōidighim [mōd'im].

d'umnik 'Sunday' (jumnik). Irish domhnach [dōnaχ]. D palatalized by influence of preceding word.

d'ūka 'a ragged beggar' (dyūka, jūka). According to L, 'a Gentile', in the Gypsy sense. See **g'ūk'ra**.

d'ūχ 'clothes' (chiūχ). *D'ūχ kuldrum* 'bedclothes'. Irish ēadach [ēdaχ].

E

ela 'another'. Also **ola**. Irish eile [el'ə].

elima, elimlox 'milk' (alemnach L, alamuk A, alamach G). *Grūt elima* 'new milk'; *g'ami e.* 'bad milk', 'buttermilk'. [But G gives *alamach grūt* 'buttermilk'; *a. ly* 'fresh milk'.] Irish leamhnacht [l'āunaχt] 'milk'.

elum 'a town' (ellum: helm G). See **āvali**. Both seem to be formed from Irish baile.

enax K' gives *cannach* 'a cap', 'bonnet'. **E. tobhair** [=tōr'] or *e. touin* [=tōn'] 'trousers'. Probably from ēadach: see **d'ūχ**.

enok, enox 'a thing'. See **inox**.

Ē

ēn 'one' (ain L). Irish aon [ēn]. On other Irish numerals given by L, see **do**.

ērpa 'another'. A *glox ērpa* 'another man'. Etymology obscure.

F

feadar 'a gull' (K). Irish faoilltheān [fwil'h'ân].

fē 'meat' ('fay, vulgarly¹ fee' L', faihé, feyé L, fē'he A, féha G).
Fē gāt 'veal'; *fē klītug* 'mutton' (but G gives *bleater's fē* for 'mutton'); *blanog's fē* 'beef'; *mwōg's fē* 'bacon'. Irish feoil [f'öl].

fē-t'ērp 'a pan'.

finnif 'a five-pound note' (N). Cant of Yiddish origin.

fik'ir 'a sweep' (fícir G).

fīn 'a man' (feen G). Irish fian.

fleece 'hair' (G). English.

fōki 'people' (N). Romani.

fōrgari 'tobacco' (G).

fōros 'a fair' (N). Not corroborated as Shelta: a Romani word from modern Greek *φópos*.

G

gafa 'lame' (gaffa). Irish bacach [bakax].

galapa 'fern' (gallopa L'). Cant, not Shelta (Sampson).

garo 'bull' (garro, gorro, gurro). Irish tarbh [taru].

gasal 'donkey' (gassel F). Irish asal.

1 **gāter** 'a drink', specifically 'beer'; but F gives gath = 'whisky':
 gatter (N) 'rain', gaθ (G) 'intoxicating drink' (gather, gatter). *K'en-gāter* 'public-house'; *mam'rum-gāter*, 'tap-room'; *trīp a gāter* 'a sup of drink'; *gāter skai* 'a drink of water'. Etymology obscure: Irish deoch [d'ox] 'drink' (?).

2 **gāter** 'father' (gather, gatter: gā'thera A, gātera G). *G. tom* 'grandfather'; *kriš-gāther*, ditto; *mo dhatair* 'my father' (W).
 Irish athair [ahir].

gaverog 'a goat'. Irish gabhar [gawar].

gāp 'a kiss', 'to kiss' (gāp, gāp). Irish pōg.

gāt 'young' (gāt, gāth, got, goth). Irish ōg.

¹ It is interesting to learn that even in Shelta there are degrees of vulgarity!

gât'na 'a young person' (gothena, gâthena), β 51.

gât'rin 'a child' (gatherin, goiḡera, goḡera, goḡerē, gotherin: gothlin, gocht'thlin (!), goch'thlin, goch'lin L', gothni, gâchlin L, gâ'hedi A, goyan F, gorya, goya, gohera G, gochlin K). K gives gochlim 'a ninny'.

gât'a 'colour' (gatyū, gocha). Irish dath [dah].

ged 'a bog' (K). Doubtful if Shelta.

gesti 'a magistrate' (ghesti, ghesterman L'). Irish giúistis [g'ūs't'is] from English 'justice': or perhaps maighistir [māis't'ir] 'master' de-aspirated and anagrammed.

get 'to leave', 'cease', 'wait' (get, geth). *Get in g'ūk* 'leave the old man alone'; *get till mwīlša sūni* 'wait till I see'; *get your tari-in* (A) 'stop your talking'. Perhaps Irish stad 'stop'.

getūl 'to shake', 'tremble', 'to fear', 'a trembling', 'fear', 'afraid'. (Also spelt geturl, getterl [γ 2a], gettūl [γ 2b].) *A-getul* (agratīs G) 'afraid'; *getuls in the māl'a* 'tremblings in the hand'; *getul'd* (spelt geturlt) 'frightened'. *Getchell* (G) 'fear', as though **get'ul**. Irish eagla [agla] 'fear' (?).

get' 'hot'. Irish tē [t'ē] 'hot'.

get'a 'to forgive' (get, getyū). *Mwīlša get'as nīd'as* 'I forgive people' (α). Irish maith [mwah] 'to forgive'.

get'al **get'a** + suffix al 'forgiveness' (α), miswritten *gretul*.

gifan 'a horse' (W, K). In K' giofan, as though **g'ifan**, **g'ofan**. Irish capall 'horse'.

gilhairt See ayirt.

gilifon 'a waistcoat'. G. *swurt* 'an inner waistcoat'; French gilet (?).

giligopa 'a teapot'.

gin 'brooch' (ginn K). Doubtful if Shelta.

gisteramán See **gesti** (géstimer N, gistremán G).

gita 'fear' (G). See **getul**.

glader 'to swindle' (gladher, gledher, gladdher, glad'herin, glant'herin, glanthlerin L'). According to Leland's Aberystwyth tramp it signifies any form of swindling, such as 'ringing the changes'; but this explanation is not accepted by Sampson. In *Journal*, G.L.S. 1, ii, p. 218 he says that the word means nothing but 'skin' (Irish leathar [l'ahar]): and that a *gladeri* is a half-naked beggar who dresses in rags to attract charity; *gladerin* he explains as shewing one's *glader*. May it not simply mean 'to skin', in the common colloquial sense of 'chisel out of money'? *Gladar-box* (G) 'a [coiner's] mould'.

glask 'grass'. Either Irish glas 'green', or English 'grass'.

Gliderox 'Munster'.

glodax 'dirt', 'dirty'. *That the mīdril may tarsp̃ you, you glodach kriš b'ōr* 'That the devil may kill you, you dirty old woman' (G); *glodach of the t'era* 'dirt [i.e. ashes] of the fire'. Irish cladach 'dirty'. See ladu.

glogē 'stocking' (glogaidh, plur. glogaidhean K'). Irish stoca.

glox 'a man' (glox, glōx, glok: glomhach, tr. 'old man' W; glom, glomhach K; gleoich, gleoch (as though gl'ox) G). A plural form, *gloxi* (spelt gloxhē, β 41), γ 1 d, is preserved: the English plural suffix is added to it in *glox-i-s* (γ 1 d), but it is not invariably used. *Glox gūt* 'black man', 'policeman'; *g. a k'ena* 'man of the house'; *g. krū* 'smith'; *g. ar-mislō* 'tramp'; *g. rilū* 'madman'; *g. šl'ī-ux* 'schoolmaster'; *g. srugad'* 'doctor'; *g. sūnal* 'showman'; *g. surdu* 'tradesman'; *g. swuder* (*g. sūdil* G) 'gentleman'; *g. tom* 'rich man'; *g. turpog* 'a ragged [beggar] man'; *g. radam* 'soldier'; *g. tarsp̃* 'dead man', 'corpse'. Perhaps Irish ōglāch [ōglāx] 'a hero', 'champion', but the word, as the above examples shew, has no such specific meaning in Shelta.

glōkot 'police' (glócote G).

glōra1 'listening'.

glōri 'to hear', 'listen to'; 'to hear a report of' (γ 2 a) (glōrhī: chlorhin L). Irish cluinim [klun'im] 'I hear'.

glōrōg 'an ear' (glōrhōg: glorhoch L). *Glōrōg* (G) 'an ear', also 'a pot'. Irish cluas 'ear'.

glūtug 'wool' (γ 2 a). Irish olann (?).

gl'āg 'a nit'. Irish sneadh [s'n'ā].

gl'it 'a mountain' (glēt, glie't). Irish slíabh [s'l'īw].

gl'ōnsk 'a man' (gleoinsc G, gleoinshe [sic] G').

goixera 'child'. For this and a variety of similar words see gāt'rin.

goixil 'all', 'every'. *Goixil türk*, 'every time'. Irish gach uile [goxíl'ə] 'each and every'.

goithean 'dog' (K').

gox', gox'i 'to leave', 'put', 'place' (gox, goxi, goixe, goxhi, goihe: ghoi, goih'ed L). *Gox' it to the Dāl'on* 'leave it to the Lord'; *gox'i his d'ī'l* 'leave him alone' (γ 1 d); *gox'id* [goihe'd] 'he put it' (on the ground, γ 1 b). Irish fag [fāg] 'leave'.

gop 'poor' (gup G). *K'en-gop* 'a poorhouse'. Irish bocht.

gopa 'a pot' (goppa: guppa G). Irish *pota*. But L gives *goppa*, and translates it 'furnace', 'a smith', as though Irish *gabha* [gāua] 'smith'.

gored 'money', 'a coin' (garedh, gorred, gurredh, gureddh: gor-head, godhed, gorheid L, gáredh A, gáiread G). *G'ami gored* 'a bad [counterfeit] coin'; *g. nap* 'silver money'; *g. grāt* 'gold coins'; *b'in'i gored* 'little money'; *gošta gored* 'plenty of money'. Irish *airgead* [ar'g'ad] 'silver', 'money'.

gori 'to give', in a variety of senses (gorri, ghoi 'to put' L, guri G). *Gori'd swurt māl'a wart* 'he put up one hand' (γ 1 b); *gori sturt* 'cover up' (β 36). 'To put', 'place', as in *gori'd him on his nup* 'he put him on his back'. The Irish root *gabh-* [gav, gau] has a similar range of meanings.

goro 'a bull' (gorro, gurro). Irish *tarbh* [tarū]. Also **garo**.

gošta 'plenty', both adj. and subst.: 'many'. *Gošta gored* (or *gošta a gored*) 'plenty of money'; *gošta dura* 'bread enough'. In β 73 spelt *goštya*, as though *gošt'a*. Perhaps Irish *sásta* [sásta] 'satisfied', for which cf. *grāsta*: but compare *Romani kušto* 'good'.

got 'young'. For this word and its derivatives see **gāt**.

got'a 'colour' (gocha). Irish *dath* [dah] 'colour'.

gov'li 'a cow' (göveli C'). Irish *gamhnach* [gaŋnaχ] 'a stripper'.

gōpa 'a pocket'. Irish *pōca*.

gōpan 'an umbrella'. Perhaps Irish *pōcān* 'a little bag'.

gōti 'to give' (gothi, grothi, gōti G). *Gōti mwīlša a milk of dura* 'give me a bit of bread'. Irish *tug* 'gave'. Compare **gori**.

gradum¹ 'life', 'soul' (gradum, gradhum). *Gradim* 'life' (G); *I solk'd his gradum* 'I took his life'; *gradum a gradum* 'for ever and ever' (α). Apparently Irish *anam* 'soul'.

graisk 'thread' (G). Irish *snath*.

graxt 'to quench'. *Graxt ludus* 'quench the light'. Irish *tacht*. Compare **grata**.

graxton 'a week' (graton, grathon, groxthon, groxton, graxthon, graxtern: gratchūil, grastōg G). Irish *seachtmhain* [s'axt'ān] 'week'.

graxu 'hurry'. Etymology doubtful.

graxul 'towards'. *Glox graxul mwīlša* 'the man on my side'. Etymology doubtful.

¹ It is probable that some of the many words beginning with *gr* should be spelt with *gr'*, but there is not sufficient material available to differentiate them.

grala 'a shoulder'. Irish *guala*.

gramail 'like'. Irish *amhail* [aʷal] 'like', 'as'.

granēl 'knowledge' (*granhēl*).

1 grani 'to know' (*granhē*, *grani*: *grāni*, *granni*, *granny* L); in β 35 'to understand'. *Grannis to my deal* (L) explained as 'it belongs to me'; *nīd'eš grani* 'I don't know'. Irish *aithnim* [aħn'im] 'I know'.

2 grani 'to want'. *Do you grani gored?* 'Do you want money?' (G).

granko 'a turkey'. Irish *francach*.

granlesk 'green' (*gronlesk*). English 'green' + nonsense suffix *lesk*.

1 granlum 'brass'. *Šarog granlum* ['red brass'] 'copper'. Etymology obscure.

2 granlum 'a neighbour'. Etymology obscure.

3 granlum 'sauce, condiment'. Irish *annlann*.

granta 'an aunt'. English, or perhaps Irish loan-word *aintin*.

gran'a 'a nail' (*granya* L, omitted on republication; *grā'ni* A). Irish *tairnge* [tarŋ'e].

gran'en 'pregnant' (*grannien* L). Uncorroborated.

graro 'a foal' (*grarro*). *Grifi tom a graro* 'a mare with foal'. Irish *searrach* [s'arraχ] or possibly *Romani k'uro*.

grasal 'an ass' (*grasol*). Irish *asal*.

Grasano 'Scotland', 'England', 'Scottish'. Irish *Sasanach* 'Saxon'.

graskal 'to open' (*graskal*, *gruskal*). Irish *foscail*. Also, as adj. 'open': *pī graskal* 'an open mouth'.

graskot 'a waistcoat'. From English.

grašano 'a mason'. Probably from English.

grat 'smoke' (*grat*, *grath*). Irish *deatach* [d'ataχ].

1 grata 'a hat' (*grata*, *gh'rata*, *gh'ratha* L, *grū'thi* A). Irish loan-word *hata*, from English.

2 grata 'to choke' (*gratha*). Apparently Irish *tachtaim* 'I choke'.

1 grat 'a place' (*grach*, *grat*). *Grat' gušu* ['a sitting place', i.e.] 'a saddle'. Irish *āit* [āt] 'place'.

2 grat 'to watch'.

1 grat'i 'to make', 'to do'. Presumably by-form or mistake for *grēdi*, q.v.

2 grat'i (*grachi*). Meaning uncertain: *grat'i grifin* or *grat'i gruna* is translated 'petticoat' [a modification of *petti-* (?)].

graura 'summer'. Irish *samhradh* [sāūra].

grādna 'a nail'. Compare *gran'a*.

grādni 'Saturday'. *Grādni olomi* 'Saturday night'. Irish Sathairn [Saharn].

grāfša 'cursed' 'haunted' (graafsha, grāfsha): in β 28, 'haunting'. Irish taidbhse [taivs'e] 'a ghost'.

grāg 'a street' (graag, graog). *Mislī-in to the grāg* is translated by G 'going to town'. Irish sráid [srād] 'a street'.

grālt'a 'welcome'. Irish fáilte [fált'e].

grānša 'a stranger' (γ 3k). Irish ströinsear [strön's'ēr], a loan-word from English.

grān'e 'a ring' (grānya, graanya: graini, graineol K, grainne G). *G. t'evpin* 'a finger-ring'; *g. grāt* 'a gold ring'; *g. šelker* 'a seller of rings'. Irish fáinne [fān'e].

grārķ 'a field' (graark, grark). *Grārķ a naps* 'a field of turnips'. Irish päirc [pärķ].

grārnog 'a flea' (graarnog). Irish dearnad [d'arnad].

1 **grā** 'love' (α), grau (β 56). Irish grādh [grā].

2 **grā** 'luck'. *G'amī grā* 'bad luck'; *mun'i-grā* 'good luck', apparently the only available equivalent for 'sanctification' in (α). Irish ādh [ā].

grābalta 'able' (grabaltha). Irish ābalta, loan-word from English.

grād 'a sod'. Irish fōd.

grāder 'solder' (grāther G, grawder L, groder K). English.

grākin 'a boy', 'lad' (grākin, grāxin, grōkin). See grōkin.

grāser 'a saucer' (grāser G). English.

grāsi 'to please' (grassi-in in γ 2b). Irish sāsamh [sāsā] 'satisfaction'.

grāsta 'satisfied' (graster, groster, grostar). Irish sāsta [sāsta].

grāt 'gold', 'golden' (grāth, grāth). *Grāt guris* 'a gold watch'. Irish ōr (?).

gredicoat 'a petticoat'. English: not used in true Shelta (Sampson in *Journal*, G.L.S. 1, ii, p. 213). See under **grāt'i**.

grent'a 'quick' (grencha). Etymology doubtful.

gresko 'a voice'. *Glōri glox's gresko* 'hear the man's voice'. Irish guth.

grespan 'to shew', 'exhibit'. Irish taisbeān [tas'b'ān].

1 **grē** 'tea'. Irish tae [tē], loan-word from English.

2 **grē** 'to arise', 'to rise', 'to raise' (grī K). *Grē swurt* 'risen up, sprung up' (β 31); *grē'd swurt arārķ* [the child] 'grew up in that fashion', 'with that peculiarity'; *grē karib* 'to raise a fight'; *grēs* (γ 1a) 'he rises'. Irish ēirighim [ēirīm].

grēdan 'a face' (grēdhan, grēdhūrn, grēthern: grēdin G). *Nap grēdan* χuri 'a white-faced horse' (β 85); *g'amī g.* (lit. 'an ugly face') 'a scoundrel'; *ād-grēdan mugatān* 'a two-faced fool'—a name for a hammer with two round faces. Irish ēadan [ēdan].

grēdi 'to make', 'to do' (grēdhi, grēthi [γ 1d]; grachi [as though grēd'ī]). *Grēdis nīd'as rīlū* 'it makes people mad'; *what's to grēdi with dī'l?* 'what's the matter with you?' (γ 1c); *nīd'as grēdi g'amiaθ mwīlša* (α) 'people who do me evil'. *Grēdi aχīm* ['to make out' =] 'to pretend' (γ 2b); *grēdi grīson* 'to tell the news'; *grēdi sūgu* 'to make fun'. *Grēti my fleece* 'cut my hair' (G); *grēti a buri t'era* (G) 'make a good fire'; *to bog the kuri's kōris grēdid* (G) 'to get the ass's hoofs done' [=shod]. Irish etymology doubtful: perhaps déan ('make', 'do'), reversed, with gr substituted for n after reversal.

grēd 'hair' (gréid G). Irish gruaig.

grē-ed 'a bridge' (grē-edh, greath). Irish droichead [droχ'ad].

grē-er 'hay' (A). Irish fēar [f'ēr] 'grass'.

grēχol 'a tooth' (grēχol, grīχol). Irish fiacal.

grēpul 'a chapel' (grēpēil G). Irish sēipēal (s'ēp'ēl): loan-word from English.

grēsol 'a beard'. See grisōg.

grēsub 'a pan'.

Grētis 'James' (G). Irish Sēamas [S'ēmas].

grēt'in 'a bird', 'chicken'. *T'al grēt'in* ['a half-bird' =] a 'linnet' or 'canary'; *swurkal g.* 'a singing bird'; *tāral g.* ['a talking bird' =] 'a parrot'; *grēt'in gūt* 'a blackbird'. Apparently Irish sicin [s'ik'in], from English 'chicken'.

1 grifi 'a mare', 'female' of any animal. *G. kam'ra* 'bitch'; *g. klītug* 'ewe'.

2 grifi See 1 grifin.

1 grifin 'a coat', 'a skirt' (G) (grifi, griffin: griffin, gruffin L, griffin F, gruffan G, grivin K). *Grat'i grifin* 'a petticoat' (also *g. b'in'i* (G)); *ād g.* 'two coats' (β 80).

2 grifin 'a groat', 'fourpence'. *Ād g.* 'eightpence'. K' gives *grosan* [<groat]. [These two words seem to be formed from 'coat' and 'groat' respectively, on an analogy from brauen or bravan = 'oat'.]

griml'ōr 'a chimney'. Also grinl'ōr. Irish simlēir.

grimšer 'a month', 'year', 'time', 'weather' (grimsha, grimshar). *Get' g.* ['hot time' =] 'summer'; *gwōp g.* ['cold time' =] 'winter' (β 33). Irish aimsir [ə'm's'ir] 'time', 'weather'.

grin'ög 'a window' (grenög: grīnög G, grainyog L). G also gives a word 'glazier' for window, presumably from English. Irish fuinneög [fwin'ög].

grin'seg 'a she-fool' (griniseag K). Irish óinseach [ōns'aχ].

grip 'money' (grop, goup K). Probably not Shelta.

griper 'supper' (gripa L, gruppa K). From English.

1 gris 'fortune', 'charm'. *Gris b'ōr*, *gris gloχ*, 'a fortune [-telling, i.e. Gypsy] woman', 'man'; *l'esk gris* 'to tell fortunes'. *The swibli a' k'en-gāter had bogd his gris l'eskd* 'the boy of the public-house had got his fortune told'. Irish fios, 'knowledge'.

2 gris 'a watch': also **guris**, or **grisūl**. Compare **grat** 'to watch'.

3 gris 'soul' (G).

griso 'to tell fortunes'.

Grisod 'Brigid' (grisödh).

grisög 'a beard'. Also **grēsol**. Irish feasög [f'asög].

grisūl 'a watch'. See **gris**.

grit'ēr 'dinner' (grichēir G).

grit'un 'an onion' (grutan G). Irish inniún.

grī-ed 'silk', 'silken'. *Gūna grī-ed* 'a silken gown'. Irish síoda [s'ida].

grilt'ūr 'a miller'. Irish muillteóir [mwilt'ōr].

grīnlesk 'flax'. *G. mun'i* translated 'flax [of the] good [people]', i.e. fairies' flax, 'ferns'. Irish lín [l'in].

grīnta, **grīntus** 'fair', 'market'. *Grēs the grīntus* 'back from the fair' (γ 3a); *grīnta-talósk* 'fair-day'. Irish aonach, plur. aontaighe [ēnti].

grīntala (γ 1a), where it is translated 'friends'. See **menthroh**.

grīnt'ūr 'dinner' (grīntyūr, gritche L). Irish dinēar [d'in'ēr], from English.

grīrse 'hair' (griorse G).

grīsk 'straw' (G). Irish tuighe [tī].

grison 'news'.

grīš 'heart' (grish). *G'ami grīš* 'ill-will'; *mwīlša's grīš* or *mwēlša's mun'i grīš* 'my good heart'—a Shelta toast. *Lōberin his grīš* 'beating his breast'. Irish croidhe [krī] 'heart'.

grīto 'wind' (grītho). *Turpōg grīto* ['wind-rag'=] 'a sail'. Irish gaoth [gēh] 'wind'.

Grītus 'Peter'. Also **Yitus**. Irish Peadar.

- grīt** 'sick'. *G'ami in grīt* (β 72) 'very ill' (we should probably read *grīt'aθ*). *Gritch* (G) 'illness'. Irish *breōite* [br'ōt'ə].
- grīt'aθ** 'sickness' (*grichas* [β 57], *grichath* [β 70]).
- grīt'i** 'dinner'. See **grint'ur**; but perhaps L's *gritche* may be derived from Irish *cuid* [kud'] 'a portion, share'.
- grīwa** 'to sweep', 'a sweep'. Perhaps Irish *sguabaim* 'to sweep'(?).
- grīwog** 'a fairy'; also 'a witch' (*grīwog*, *grūvog*). *G'ami grīwog* 'bad fairy'—a term of endearment (!). Irish *sídheōg* [s'iyōg] 'fairy'.
- groxta** 'snow' (*graxta*). *Groxta-nap* 'snow-white'. Irish *sneachta* [s'n'axta].
- grolan** 'noise'. *Grē grolan* 'to raise a noise'; *get grolan* 'stop the noise!'; *tōmān g.* 'too much noise'. Irish *glōr*.
- grolsa** 'lazy' (*gralsa*). Irish *fallsa*.
- grolsin'aθ** 'laziness' (*grolsinyath*).
- gropa** 'a shop' (*gruppa* G).
- grōda** 'soda' (G). English.
- grōkin** 'a lad' (*grōken*, *grāxen*). Irish *stōcach* [stōkax], a contemptuous word for 'lad': 'lubber'.
- grōmug** 'egg'. Also *rūmōg*. Irish *ūbh* or *ugh* [ū] 'egg'.
- grōpa** 'soap'. Irish *sōpa*, loan-word from English.
- gruber** 'work', 'a job': 'to work'. *Nid'eš tul your gruber* (β 48) translated 'not worth your notice' [perhaps better, 'not worth your trouble']. *Gruberin* 'working'; *grubin* (K) 'digging'; *grubin-ciar* (K) 'workhouse' [*ciar*=Romanian *kēr*, 'house']. *Grubacht* (G). Irish *obair* [ubar'].
- grug'im** 'curds' (*gruigim* K'). Irish *gruth*.
- 1 grux** 'frost', 'ice'. Also *gruk*. Irish *sioc* [s'uk].
- 2 grux** 'to shoot'. Future *gruxa* (β 19). Irish *lamhach* [lāax]; or conceivably an anagram of *urchar* 'a cast', 'a shot'.
- grunim** 'oat-meal' (G).
- grunkel** 'uncle'. English: or Irish loan-word *oncal*.
- Grunles** 'Annie'.
- grunsa** 'a [barrel-]hoop' (G). Irish *fonna*.
- grup** *grup rēib* (see **rēb**) (G) 'a wisp of hay'. Irish *sop*.
- grupân** 'a cup' (*grupân* G). Irish *cupân*, from English.
- gruska** 'a tinsmith's box' (*grusca* G). Irish *bosca* 'box'.
- gruti** 'a hat' (*grūthi* A, *gruta* G). See also **1 grata**.
- gruvog** 'a fair'.

1 grūd' 'a feather'. *Grūd'-lī* 'a feather-bed'. Also klūd'. Irish cleite [kl'et'e], or perhaps *clūmh* [klū] 'feather'.

2 grūd' 'tea' (grūj G).

grūker 'sugar' (grucera G). Irish loan-word siúcar [s'ū'kr] from English.

grūla 'apple'. *Skaihop grūla* 'cider'. Irish ubhall [ūl].

grūna 'a gown', 'dress'. Irish gūna, loan-word from English.

grūskal 'to awaken'. Irish mūsigail.

grūskil 'a punch'. *Grūskil šarka* ['a cutting-punch' =] 'chisel'. Irish loan-word sīsēal [s'is'ēl] 'chisel' (?).

grūsku 'whilst'. Probably Irish sīost [s'ist] 'a while'.

grūt 'new' (gruth). *Grūt elima* 'new milk'. Irish nuadh [nūa].

grūti 'to shut' (G).

Grūtīn 'Winifred' (G).

gulima 'a boot' (gulimug, gullima: gullemnock, gullemnock L, gillamese F, gaileamuck, guilimīn G, guilbneach, guilbean-nach K'). Etymology doubtful.

guris 'a watch'. See 2 gris.

guš, gūš 'to sit'. *Guš širt* 'sit down' (also *guši iširt* G); *grat' gušu* 'a saddle' ['sitting place']; also *gušu* alone. *Od glox gušin in the mam'rum gāter* 'There are two men sitting in the tap-room'. Irish suidh [sī].

1 gušu 'a kettle' (gushū, gushūχ, gushuk: gūshūk L; guiseach 'a porringer' G). Irish soitheach [soh'aχ] 'a vessel'.

2 gušu 'a saddle'. See guš.

gušul 'a porringer' (guiseal G). See 1 gušu.

gut 'wire' (G). Irish snāth [snah].

gūt 'black' (gūt, gūth). *Gūt-glox* 'a policeman'. Irish dubh [duw].

gūtena 'a smith', 'blacksmith' (gūtherna). Also *glox gūtena*. *Gotherma*, *guttema* (L) 'a policeman'; *guthanna* (G) 'a smith'.

gwil'i 'to lie', 'lie down' (gwilyi). *Gwil'i-in nasdēš* 'lying (down) here' (β 74); *gwil'id on tōber* '[he] lay down on the road'; *Ar gwil'o* 'lying down' (β 4). Irish luighim [lwīm].

gwiš 'hay', 'straw' (gūish). Irish tuighe [twī]. Grisk (G).

gwōp 'cold' (gūop; goo-ope, gūop L). Apparently Irish bog, literally 'soft', but often applied, with euphemistic optimism, to a cold, wet day.

G'

g'al 'yellow', 'red' (*gial* L). But cf. Irish *geal* [*g'al*] 'white'.

g'ami 'bad' (*gami*, *gyami*, *gamox*: *gyami* L, *gammy* G). *G'*, *grīš* 'ill-will'; *g'*, *elima* 'buttermilk'; *g'*, *lākin* 'prostitute'; *g'*, *sūner b'ōr* ['a bad-looker woman' =] 'a woman with the evil eye'; *g'*, *grēdan* ['bad-face' =] 'a scoundrel'; *g'*, *tān* 'a bad-[weathered] day'; *g'*, *gured* 'a false coin'; *g'*, *grā* 'bad luck' (β 91); *g'*, *in grūt* ['bad in sickness' =] 'very ill' (β 72); *g'*, *ned'as* 'an unlucky place' (G). Comparative *g'amier* (β 32); superlative *g'amiest* (β 64). Etymology uncertain. 'Gammy' is a common cant word for bad, but whether it is derived from Shelta or vice versa is uncertain. Pace Barrère and Leland (s.v.) there is no Gaelic word *gam* 'lame', 'crooked', 'bad': presumably they were thinking of *cam*.

g'amiaθ 'badness', 'evil'.

g'amox 'bad': by-form of *g'ami*.

g'e 'with' (*gyē*), β 37. Irish *le* [*l'e*] 'with'.

g'et'a 'twenty', 'a score' (*getya*, *geta*, *gyeta*). *T'al g'et'a* 'a half score', 'ten'; *ād g'et'a* 'two score', 'forty'; *šūkr g'et'a* 'five score', 'a hundred'. Etymology doubtful: perhaps from the genitive of *fiche* [*fīx'et*] 'twenty'.

g'et'um 'a gate'. Irish *geata* [*g'ata*] 'gate'.

g'ēg 'to ask', 'beg' (*gēeg*, *gēg*, *giēg*; *gayg* G). *G'ēgin g'ūk* 'a beggar-man'; *He g'ēgd mwīlsā axim* 'He asked me out'. Irish *guidhe* [*gī*] 'pray'.

g'ēg'ra 'a beggar' (*giēgera*, *géger* G). Compare *d'ūka*, *g'ūk'ra*, *yūk'ra*.

g'ilixōn 'a book', 'a bible'. (Also spelt *jilihon*.)

G'ison 'John' (*Gisān* G). Irish *Seaghan* [*S'ān*].

g'ofag 'a sow' (*giofag* K').

g'ofan 'a horse' (*giofan* K').

g'ōr 'penis' (*gioer*, *gyor*). *G'ōr šed'in t'era* 'a poker'. Irish *bod* (?).

g'ūk 'an old man', especially 'a beggar', 'vagrant' (*gyuk*, *dyuk*, *juk*, *yuk*, *yook*: *gyuch* or *gyūrch* A, 'a man'). *G'ūk a k'ena* 'old man of the house': *moryenni yook* (L) should be *muni g'ūk* 'a good man'. Irish *geōcach* [*g'ōkaχ*] 'a vagrant'.

g'ūk'ra 'a beggar' (*jūka*, *gyukera*, *yukera*), γ 3f; in β 43 used as a plural. *Grag' g'ūk'ra* 'a street beggar'; *g. lampa* 'a bag-beggar' [a tramp who travels the country with a bag]. Irish *geōcaire* [*g'ōkərə*] 'a vagabond'.

g'ūksta 'a monkey': also (contemptuously) 'an old man' (β 5). *Karb g'ūksta*, female of the same. A superlative formation from *g'ūk* (?).

H

hal 'across' (G). *Hal skai* ['across water' =] 'across the sea'. Irish *thar* [har].

hawrum 'morning' (G). Otherwise *sroid'an*, q.v.

hālor 'a cap' (G).

hāvari 'home'. In Shelta *na-havari* is used for 'homeward' or 'at home': *na=in* (q.v.). *Are you misli-in na-havari to gruber?* 'Are you going home to work?' *Nus a Dāl'on mwēlša's havari* 'God bless my [or our] home'. Also *āvari*, *havalō*, *havara*. Probably from Irish *a-bhaile* [awa'l'e] 'at home', 'homeward'.

helm 'a town' (G). See *elum*.

Hibi Vocative of *Sibi*, n. pr. fem.

horer 'a clock' (yewr: both forms given by N). Probably cant (from Yiddish?) or Romani *hora* 'watch, clock'.

horsk 'across', 'over'. *Misli-in horsk the skai* 'crossing over the water'. Irish *thar* + nonsense addition *sk*. See **hal**.

hū 'thou', 'you'. In *st'im'ra hū* (γ 3f) 'Are you a piper?' Irish *thū* [hū].

I

i 'in' (also a).

1 in 'the'. *Sūni in glox-swudal* 'Look at the gentleman'. Irish *an*.

2 in Irish interrogative particle (= Latin *nonne*, -ne). See quotation under **hū** above.

inox 'a thing' (*inok*: *ainoch* L, *eenik* L', *innock* G). Often used, like 'thingamy' and such nonsense words, to fill the vacancy, when a name for something does not exist, is forgotten, or is undesirable to mention. G gives *šark my inox* for 'cut my hair', and *gopa-inox* (an essentially English construction) for 'a pot-hook'. *Sūni the inox* 'look at that!' *eanach meilg* (K'=*inox mal'a*) 'a finger-ring'. *Inox-n'ab*, *Inox-nīp* (G) 'turnip' (but *innocniap* of *gairéad*='a sovereign', '£1'). The word is also used in the same general way for a non-existent or forgotten verb. *Inoxin roixas* 'playing cards'; *inoxin m'iskon* 'giving the breast' [to a child, β 77]; *inoxin kad'ogs* 'throwing stones' (β 15); *inoxin the stama* 'writing the letter'. *Can I inox my st'imera* [recte *st'ima*] *at the t'era?* (G) 'Can I light my pipe at the fire?' *Inox libis* ['the sweet thing' =] 'sugar' (G). *Inox you škimašk* 'make you drunk'; *inox the ludus axim* 'put the light out'; *Nad'ram of the Dal'on inox you* 'the Virgin Mary bless you'. (These three sentences from G.) Also **t'inox**, **ainox**, **enox**.

K

kad'ög 'a stone' (kadog, kadyog, kajog, kajic: khädyog L, caideóg G). *Kad'og a t'era* 'hearthstone'; *k. muni* ['good stone' =] 'diamond'; *k. šarko* ['sharpening stone' =] 'grind-stone'; *k. nap* ['white stone' =] 'lime'; *k. ladu* ['stone of earli' =] 'gravel'. *Kadog-grāšano* 'a stone-mason'. Caid (Bearlagair word, see following chapter) + ög.

kaihed 'a chair' (L). Irish cathaoir [kaħīr].

kaine 'ears' (kyni L). Perhaps Romani kanya, 'ears'.

kam 'son' (com, cam G). *Kam a k'ena* 'son of the house'. Irish mac.

kamag 'a hen' (camag, caimeag K').

kamair 'mother' (camir K, mo chàmair W). Irish māthair.

kam'ra 'dog' (kamera, kameri: kām'bre A, comera G, cām'bra C). *K. šural* 'racing dog', 'greyhound'; *k. n'āk* (or *m'āk*) 'a fox'. Irish madra.

kamrailid' 'a quarrel', 'fight' (kamrailid, camarailid K').

kant 'a gill'. Also chant.

kar 'whither?' (car, γ ic). *Kar dīlša misli-in?* 'Where are you going?' Apparently an abbreviation of *kē ar* 'what on?'

kara 'a boat' (cara K'). Irish curach 'a canoe'.

karb 'an old woman', 'grandmother' (krab, karbug [a diminutive form, with Irish dim. suffix ög]). *Karb lugil* 'a banshee' [wailing woman]; *k. g'ūksta* 'a female monkey'; *kriš karb* 'an old hag' (β 24). Used sometimes contemptuously, but not always. Connected by Kuno Meyer with an obscure and obsolete word fracc, recorded in O'Davoren's *Glossary*.

karbu 'market' (kāribu, kūribu, kūrbug). *Karbug talósk* 'market-day'. Irish margadh [marga].

kari 'to buy', 'to pay' (karri). Irish ceannuigh [k'ani].

1 karib 'to kill' (karb [γ 3j], kurob L', carob 'to cut' L, koreb A, koriben 'fighting' A, corrib G; carab 'to hit', carob 'to cut' C). *Stēš karibin od gri'tin kad'og awárt* 'that's killing two birds [with] one stone'; *Mwīlša's karibd with the gwop* 'I'm killed with the cold' (G). In English Shelta always used instead of *lober* 'to strike': *By the Holy Dal'ōn, sūbli, I'll karib you in the pī* 'By the Holy God, mate, I'll hit you in the mouth' (Sampson). Irish marbh [marw] 'to kill', 'dead'.

2 karib 'to steal' (carab C, corrib G, karrib [γ 3j]). *Do you karib the t'imas in the šark?* 'Do you steal the sticks in the field?' (G).

karmuš 'a shirt'.

karnag 'drawers' (carnag K').

karnān 'a dungheap', 'rubbish-heap'. In γ 3g with lenition of initial, χ arnān. K. *snēli* 'a heap of rushes'. Irish carnān.

karniš 'meat' (G).

kart 'a trail' (cart, chart C). Irish tarraing.

kartson 'a needle' (carthson K). Doubtful if Shelta: but conceivably an anagram of Irish snāthad.

kasin 'cheese'. (Also **kesum**.) Irish cāis [kās].

kauvi 'testicle'.

kāb 'cabbage' (cab L', cāb G).

kāmpa 'a camp' (kā'mpa A). English. According to A the tinkers in America speak of *kāmpān klūgen e mukya* [kāmpa 'n klūgen a' mwog'a] as 'a famous camp in Wales'. This would mean 'the camp of the pig's head': in seeking to identify it we may neglect the actual meaning of the name, or even its apparent meaning to Welsh ears, and think only of the meaning which itinerant tinkers with a smattering of Welsh might extract from it. *Penmachno* has occurred to me as a possible identification, but some Welsh friends whom I have consulted are doubtful of this. Klugen = Irish cloigionn 'skull'.

Kerribad 'Margaret' (Kerribadh).

kesig 'a mare' (kessig N).

kē 'where?' *Kē nyīpa hū?* 'Where have you gone?' 'Where are you?' See **kar**.

klaiton 'a ditch', 'wall' (klaithon: claidhán G 'a fence', 'bank'). *Ladu klaiton* 'a clay bank'. Irish claidhe [klī] with diminutive suffix ān.

klisp 'to break' (clisp, chlispen, clispēn L, cheisp G) 'to break by letting fall' (L). *Klispa hū* 'thou didst break'; *klisp kun'a* 'a suspended priest'; *klispin talósk* 'day (is) breaking'. Irish bris.

klispis 'trousers' (also klīšis). Variant of **rišpis**, q.v. Irish briste, with English plural ending s.

klitug 'a sheep'. *Fē klitug* 'mutton'. Etymology doubtful.

kluš 'easy' (clush C). Doubtful if Shelta: possibly from Irish furas.

klūd 'a feather'. *Klūd'-lī* 'a feather-bed'. Compare grūd'.

klūt 'a wool' (klūtya). Compare glūtug.

kogi 'turnips' (koggies C). Probably not Shelta.

koi 'pincers' (khoi L).

koldni 'a bud' (coldni, coldi K). Irish coinnle, coindle.

kolum 'a sheep' (colum K').

kom, kombat 'a clergyman' (com, combat C).

kon 'night' (conn K'). Irish (a)-nocht [ənoχt] 'to-night'.

kon'in 'a child' (K). Perhaps the slang kindšin (from German or Yiddish: cf. 'the kinchen lay' in *Oliver Twist*). Or possibly a hypocoristic adaptation of the Irish coinin [kon'in] 'a rabbit'.

korib 'to warm' (corrib G). *Korib your māl'as at the t'era* 'warm your hands at the fire' (G). Etymology doubtful.

kōri 'foot', 'leg' (kora 'leg' L'; kori 'foot' L; cōra G). *T'ēvpins a kōli* ['fingers of the foot' =] 'toes'. Also kōli. Etymology doubtful. Hardly from Irish cos.

kōrig 'vulva' (kurrog). *Lub a kōrig* 'vagina'; *kōrig a gloχ* 'a despicable man'. Etymology doubtful.

krad'i 'to stop', 'stay', 'wait', 'to be, or to lie in a place' (kradyi, krajī [γ ɪ c], krādyin L, hatchī N 'to remain'). *Krād'hyī* 'slow' (L); *krad'al* 'stopping', 'remaining'. See quotation under d'ox. *Krad'i your pī* 'stop [shut] your mouth'. Irish stad.

kran 'a farm' (cran(k)). Doubtful if Shelta.

kranko 'a turkey'. See **granko**.

krauder 'string' (crowder L).

kraudug 'a hen' (kaldthog L, crowdhel, croudóg, crōd'ōg G, kraudug, kraudog). *Craodag* 'an egg' (K'). Irish cearc [k'ark].

kretum 'sand' (cretum K). Doubtful.

krimašt 'a clergyman' Also **kummašt**. Irish ministēir, loan-word from English.

kriš 'old'. *Kriš karb* 'an old hag'; *kriš nad'ram* 'grandmother'; *kriš tobar* ['an old road' =] 'a lane'. Irish sean [s'an].

krišena 'the old one', 'the elder', 'the eldest'.

krīmūm 'a sheep' (crīmūm L, but omitted on republication).

kripa, kripuχ 'a cat' (krépoč L, crīpach G). *K. šural* ['a running cat' =] 'a hare'.

krip'in 'a stool' (cripín G).

kriš 'a saddle' (krees N). See **grat'**.

krop 'money' (crop F). Uncorroborated.

krōker 'a doctor' (N).

krōlušk 'hungry' (A: clōrus, crolusc 'hunger' G). Irish ocras [ukras] 'hunger'. More properly the word should be rendered 'hunger'. A gives the sentence *tha królushk amílth [Tā krōlušk a' mwīlša]*, a literal rendering of the Irish *tā ocras orm* 'there is hunger on me', 'I am hungry'.

krū in *glox krū* 'a smith'. Meaning uncertain.

kuldrum 'asleep', 'to sleep'. *T'ūχ kuldrum* 'bed-clothes'. Irish *codladh* 'sleep'.

kuler 'a shilling' (kuller, kalor N). Not corroborated.

kun'a 'excreta'. *Kun'a k'ena* 'a latrine'.

kun'el 'a potato' (cunnel *kunyel* L, *cullen*, *cullion* G). Cant. Shelta.

kun'i 'cacare'.

kuri 'a horse, donkey' (*kūri*, *χuri*, *curry* 'an ass' G, *curraigh* 'a horse' F, *kūri* A). *T'al kuri* 'a mule', or 'jennet'; *kuri b'in'i* 'a donkey'; *kuri tom* 'a horse'; *kuri šural* 'a horse-race' (sic in a MS. note, but more probably 'race-horse'); *kuris' k'ena* (crois-kaona G) 'a stable'. Irish *gearrán* 'a horse'.

kurlim 'to close' (G). *Kurlim a lürk* 'to close an eye'.

kut'er 'a cat' (cutcher G).

kūn'a 'a priest' (*kūna*, *kūnya*: *okonneh* L, *cuinne* G). *Kūn'a a abista* 'parish priest'; *klišp kūn'a* 'a suspended priest'.

kūt'i 'a piece', 'bit'. N gives *hatchi kootschi [kad'i kūt'i]* for 'stop a little longer'. Irish *cuid* [kud'] 'a piece, share'.

K'

k'en, **k'ena** 'a house' (*kiéna*, *kyena*, *kena*, *ken*; *kiéna*, *kiéna* LL', *kin* C', *keen* F, *cian* K', *ciam*, *cian*, *ciar* C, *ce'na* G). *B'or' a k'ena* 'woman of the house'. *A šed's-k'en* (shades-cane G) 'police-barrack'; *cian toim* (W) ['big house'=] 'a cottage'; *cian b'in'* (W), *ceampain* (K'), *b'in'i k'ena* (G) ['little house'=] 'a tent'; *k'en-gāter* 'a public house'; *k'en groṑa* 'a shop'; *k'en ned'as* 'a lodging house'; *k'en spurko* 'a brothel'; *k'en-gop* 'a poorhouse'; *kiēnthīs* [k'entis] 'houses' (β 31). Sometimes interchanges with Romani *kēr*.

k'erp 'to lie', 'to peach', 'give information' (chirps L 'lies'). *Lyeskin chirps*, or *k'erpin* 'telling fortunes'. *Cherpin* (L), said to mean 'a book'. Also *chirp*, *churp*. Probably from *breag* [br'eg] 'a lie', which suggests the spelling here adopted, with *k'* rather than with *t'*.

k'erp'ra 'a liar', 'impostor' (*churpera*, γ 2a).

k'ēdi 'a cap' (céidi G). Probably cant.

k'ērk 'a garment' (cheirk, pron. chair-k (G) but here spelt with k' rather than with t' on account of apparent connexion with Irish ceart [k'art] 'a rag'). *G'ēg an old k'ērk from the glox* 'ask the man for an old garment'.

k'ima 'a stick'. Properly t'ima or d'ima, from Irish maide [mwad'ə].

X

χaran 'S'deis sium a meartsacha air aicharan' (W) = *stēs-im a 'march'-axa ara χaran* 'we are "marching" [=going] on the sea'. χaran, not otherwise recorded, must be a perversion of Irish fairrge [far'g'e or war'g'e] 'sea'.

χurīn 'a can' (khurrhīn). Said to be a Munster word.

L

labērt 'to exchange' (laberth). Irish malairt.

laburt 'to curse', 'a curse' (labūrth). Irish mallacht.

lad'ram 'soap' (latherum). English 'lather'.

ladu 'earth'; 'dirt', 'dirty' (ladhū, ladher [γ 3k]). Loda (G) 'a [clay] floor'; lodach (G) 'dirt'. *Ned'as ladu* 'a graveyard'; *on ladu* (γ 1d) 'on land'. Irish talamh [talā].

lad'n'ax 'daughter' (laidneach G).

lag 'to conduct'. *He'll lag you home* 'he'll see you home'.

lagprat 'a fish' (N). Not corroborated, but compare **laprōg**.

lagūn 'a porringer' (G). Possibly from Irish noigīn.

lampa 'a bag' (lampē). *Lampa munt'es* 'tobacco-pouch'; *l. gored* 'a purse'. Irish māla.

lampēid 'a blanket' (G). Irish blaincéad, from English.

lampōg 'a tinker's budget' of tools, etc. (G). Diminutive of **lampa**.

lanach 'a highway' (W).

laprōg 'a duck', 'goose' (G): **laprogh** 'a bird' (L).

laskon 'salt' (laskern: lascon G, lóskum A). Irish salann.

lasp 'taste' (larsp, lesp). Irish blās.

lašūl 'nice', 'pretty', 'a flower' (lashool L, loşul, loşhūn 'sweet' L, lāşuwul A). Superlative laşūlest (γ 1f). *Lasūir dora* 'nice bread' (G); lāşuīl thālosk (*lašūl talōsk*) 'fine day', 'good morrow' (G'). Irish deiseamhail [d'ēs'ūl].

lat'rum 'butter' (latherum).

lābi 'to hide'. Irish foluigh [folī] (?).

lākin 'a girl' (larkin L', leicheen L, lāk'in, lārkin A, lackeen F, — lackan C', lakīn G). *G'ami lākīn* 'a prostitute'. Irish cailín.

lākr 'a tailor' (larkr [ɣ ɪ b]). Irish tāilliūr [tāl'ūr], from English.

lākūn 'a stool' (G).

1 lāsk 'to light' (larsk). Irish las.

2 lāsk 'a stool' (lesk G). Also **losk**. Irish stol.

lāsūn In the expressions *lāsūn gāter*, *l. nad'ram* 'grandfather', 'grandmother' (G). Irish sean-athair, sean-mhathair, but the prefixed *la-* is obscure.

lēdōg 'a lady' (G). From English. The by-form **yēdug** (q.v.) suggests that this should be spelt **l'ēdōg**.

liba 'blood'. Irish fuil.

Libisk 'Philip'.

ligi 'a church'. Irish eaglais [aglis].

linska 'a name'. Irish sloinne. See **munik**.

lī 'a bed'. *Lī-ned'as* 'a bed-place', 'lying-down-place'. Irish luighe (lī) 'lying down'.

līspa 'a dish' (G): **līspog** (G) 'a basin'. *Od mid'ōg līspa* 'a two-shilling piece' (G). Etymology doubtful.

lobān 'a cabin: a tent' (G). Irish bothán [bohān].

lod 'white' (G). *Gored lod* 'silver money'.

loday 'mud', 'dirt', 'soot' (G). Also **gloday**. Irish lathach [lahax].

lork 'a car', 'cart' (lorch 'a two-wheeled vehicle' L, lorc G). Etymology uncertain.

losk 'a stool' (lorsk: losc G). Irish stol. See **lāsk**.

losport 'a bastard' (G). Perversion of the English word.

lōber 'to hit', 'strike', 'beat'; **ɣ ɪ d** (lubrān, lūber 'to hit' 'strike' L). *Lō'be dhīl är'e pī* (A), translated 'hit him on the mouth', but properly *lōb(r)a (mē) dī'l ar a' pī* 'I'll hit you on the mouth'. A also gives *lōbrāme dhīe'I*, which is the same expression. Irish buail.

lōsp 'to marry' (lorsp). Irish pōs.

lōspo 'married' (lorspo: lospi G). *L. b'ōr'* 'a married woman'.

lub 'a hole' (lub G 'a chimney'). *Lub gūt* 'prison'; *lub a kōrig* 'vagina'; *lub a tūr* 'anus'. Irish poll 'a hole'.

- luba** 'a word' (lubba: lob, loba G; in γ 3k 'advice'). Perhaps Irish labhradh [laura] 'talk', but doubtful.
- lubān** 'a tent' (G). See **lobān**.
- lud** 'blind'. Irish dall.
- ludni** 'haste' (K). Doubtful.
- lud'ra** 'north'. *L. munk'ri* 'north-country', 'Ulster'; *tāral a lud'ra* 'north-country accent' (γ 3k). Irish tuaidh.
- ludus** 'light' (ludhus, ludhers). Irish solas.
- lugil** 'to cry out', 'to cry aloud'. Also **lugil axīm**. In γ 3g karb luggd axīm should be *lugild axīm*. *B'ōr'-lugil* 'a crying woman', 'banshee'. *Lūgīn* (G) 'crying'. Irish glaoth (gle).
- lumī** 'a tent-cover' (lomī G).
- lur'an** 'shoes' (luirean W). Irish cuarán.
- lusk** Only found in the expression *strépuick lusk* (L'), 'son of a harlot', uncorroborated and doubtful.
- luskan** 'hoop' of a tin can (luscan G).
- luskān** 'a herring' (luscán G). Irish scadān.
- 1 luš** 'to eat', 'drink', 'bite', 'smoke'. *Luš brās* 'to eat food'; *luš gāter* 'to drink'; *luš št'īma* 'to smoke a pipe'. *Lušin-k'ena* 'an eating-house'. Etymology uncertain. Lush is a common cant word, but as in the case of *g'ami* (q.v.) it is not certain which language has the priority.
- 2 luš** 'porter' (the drink): F, G.
- lutram** 'a prostitute': in the expression *luthrum's goixera* (L'). Irish meirdreach.
- lūbīn** 'a loaf' (G). Irish builín.
- lūk** 'a corner' (lurk). Diminutive *lūrcān* (G). Irish cūl.
- lū-ōg** 'meal' (G). *Lū-ōg nap* 'flour'; *l. bravan* 'oatmeal'.
- lūrķ** 'an eye' (lurrk, lūrķ: lurk, lūrķ L, lūrķi A, lūrķ G). Irish dearc.
- lūrķōg** 'belonging to the eye'. *Lūrķōg slun'a* 'spectacles'.
- lūrp** 'flour' (G). Irish plūr.
- lūt** 'porridge' (G).
- 1 ly** 'fresh' (W). See **elima**.
- 2 ly** 'another' (G). *A nīd'a ly* 'another person'. See **1 a**.
- 3 ly** 'queer' (G). *K'ena ly* 'a queer house'; *glox ly* 'a queer man'.

L'

l'ag 'to lose', 'to forget' (γ 3i), 'to pawn' (lug, lyag: l'yogh L).
L'ag k'ena 'a pawnshop'. Irish caill.

l'agun 'a loss' (lyagurn). Irish cailleamhain [kal'ã'an].

l'art 'mind' (liart G).

l'e 'white'. Irish geal.

l'esk 'to tell' (laisk G'). *L'esk d'arp* 'to tell truth'. Irish sgéal
 'a story'.

l'esko 'a story'. Irish sgéal.

l'ibis 'sweet' (G). Irish milis.

l'im 'a side', 'edge': 'beside'. *Od l'im* 'both ways', 'both sides'
 (γ 1b); *l'im a Srôn'a* 'beside the Boyne'. Irish imeal [im'al]
 'border'.

l'išgad 'a skillet' (lishgadh).

l'it'en 'people' (lychyen L). Not corroborated.

l'ivin 'a mill'. Irish muilleann. The initial m has suffered lenition
 after being taken over into Shelta.

l'ima 'a louse'. Irish mīol. Also lyūma.

1 **l'īman** 'a mile' (γ 2 a).

2 **l'īman** 'a year' (laiimon, lyīmon: limina G). *L'īman wart* 'one
 year'; *od šīkr l'īman* 'two or three years'. From the dative
 of bliadhain: 'sa' mbliadhain [sa ml'ian] 'in the year'.

l'irk 'wit', 'sense': also **yirk**. So spelt, but most probably *lī-ak*.
 Irish ciall.

l'irko 'witty'.

l'ogax 'a small boy' (liogach bin W). Irish buachall.

l'ūr 'money'.

M

madel 'a tail' (L). Irish earball, but the connexion is doubtful.

maksti 'a cat'. Prob. Romani mačka.

maxal 'a church'. Also maxer. Perhaps Irish caipeal 'chapel'.
 Compare grēpul.

maxon 'a cup'. *Klispu maxon* 'a broken cup'. Irish cupān, from
 English.

mam'rum 'a room' (nomroom, nomera G). *Mam'rum gāter* 'tap-
 room'. Irish seōmra, from English 'chamber'.

mang 'talking' (manging C').

mankers, mankerso 'handkerchief'. English Shelta only. *Tom mankerso* 'a shawl'; *mankers grī-ed* 'a silk handkerchief'.

mantri 'soup, broth'. Irish anbruth.

mark 'a bone'. *Mark-nid'as* ['bone-place' =] 'Marylebone': an interesting example of folk-etymology. Irish cnāmh [knāw: in North Ireland and Scotland pronounced krāw]. See the note under **kāmpa**, above.

marro In γ 3e is a corruption of incorrect Irish mā raibh 'if there were'.

mašin 'a goose' (masheen L, maisin G). Doubtful etymology. Also translated 'cat', in which case it will come from puisin 'pussy'.

mašūr 'a hammer' (mosūr G). Irish casūr.

māl'a 'hand', 'arm'; 'a handle', 'to handle' (mailya, mālya: máile G, māl'yl A). *Māl'a nap* 'a white handle'. *Mailyas, moillhas* 'fingers' (L); *mailyen* 'feeling', 'taking', 'handling' (L). *Māl'a'd* (G) 'arrested'. Irish lamh [law] 'hand', but compare the English cant 'mawleys'.

medel 'black' (medthel L).

med'ri 'to carry' (medhri, medheri). *B'or' med'rin* (G) 'a pregnant woman'. Irish breith 'to carry'.

megit 'a sheep' (K). Not Shelta.

meilor 'an ass' (N). Not Shelta.

menthroh A gives a sentence I'm mėslien [= *misli-in*] to sūni nī [read *my*] nídhe [*nīd'a*] 'menthroh', translated 'I'm going to see my friend'. Compare **grintala**. Both words are probably corruptions of the Irish muinntear, a person's 'people' (i.e. family, friends, followers, etc.).

mer'gin 'a tinker's box' (merigin G).

mēri 'stairs' (merhi, merra). *Sturt the mam'rum, swurt the mēri* 'Into the room, up the stairs'. Irish staighre [stāir'e], from English.

mērko, mērkoğ 'nose' (mearig G, merrih L, menoch (misprint for merroch) L, smār'agh A). Etymology doubtful.

mid'og 'a shilling' (midyog, mijog, mijik: midgic L, mideog G, midyok A). *Od mid'og* 'a florin'. Etymology doubtful.

mileš. *Tush é* [= Gaelic *tā sē* 'he is'] *milesh* (L), translated 'he is staying there'.

milk 'a bit', 'a piece'. *Mwīlša krād'i'd a milk* (γ 3b) 'I waited a bit'; *he bug'd a milk of his d'īl* 'he took hold of him'. Doubtful etymology.

mink'er 'a tinker' (minkr, minkūr, minkyer: minkler L', minkier A, nacer G). *Mink'er tāral* 'tinker's talk', 'Shelta'. Irish, from English, tinnceir [tink'ēr].

min'urt 'now', 'to-day' (minárt, minyárth, minúrth, minyúrth, münýúrth). See **n'urt**. *Talósk min'urt* 'to-day'. Irish indiū 'to-day', or perhaps anois [anís] 'now'.

misla-in 'raining' (mislain L). Probably English 'mizzling'.

misler 'a doctor' (missler G).

1 misli 'to go', 'walk', 'depart': in L incorrectly rendered 'come', 'coming', 'to send'. *Misli axim* 'go out'. *Ar-mislo* 'gone': adverbially in *g'et'a l'īman ar-mislo* (γ 2a) '[twenty miles] away'. Needi-mizzler (L') 'a tramp', should be *nīd'a ar-mislo* 'a person "on the go"'. *Bog ar-mislo* 'to escape', 'get away'. As in English periphrastic future, 'going' to do anything: *misli-in to sahu his d'īl* 'going to drown himself' (γ 1a). Miesli, misli (L); miseli (L) translated 'quick'. *Misli gl'et tom* (β 87) means 'to walk [to a] big mountain'; *a'maslachadh* (W) 'walking'. Sometimes in a causative or transitive sense: *misli gošta lū-ōg on the lūt* (G) 'put enough meal on the porridge'; *misli the lodus axim* 'put the light out'. Perhaps Irish siubhal (s'ūwal) 'to walk', but rather remote.

2 misli 'to want' (G). *Do you misli gored?* 'Do you want money?' Possibly Irish teastuighim [t'astim] 'to want', but again, rather remote.

misli-er 'a walker', 'tramp', 'vagrant' (misleór G).

miš 'to hit'. *Mish it thom* (L), translated 'hit it hard'. Irish aimsighim [aims'im] 'to hit (a mark)'.

mišūr 'a dresser' [cupboard for holding china, etc.] (misúir G). Irish drosūr.

mit'ni 'a policeman' (mithani, mithni L').

mīder, mīdril 'devil' (mīderr, mīdher, mīdhurl, mīdhril: medhil, mīdil G). *Rī-mīder*, translated 'double devil' (but see **rī**, below). *Ned'as a mīder* 'Hell'. Irish diabhal.

mīderal 'devilment'.

mīltōg 'a shirt', 'shift', 'sheet' (milthug, mīltug: mīltōg G, melthog L', milltog N, millthogue F).

mīrsrūn 'shawl' (G).

mīšōg 'tongue' (mīlšog).

mīšūr 'scissors'. *M. b'in'i* 'a scissors'; *m. tom* 'a shears'. Irish siosūr.

mo 'my' (Irish). Sometimes rendered emphatic by addition of -sa to the following noun (Irish).

molem 'cold bruised potatoes' (mollem).

molson 'an ass' (N).

mong 'a fool' (G). Probably back-slang from Anglo-Irish 'gom'.

mongas 'tongs' (G). From English.

morghen 'a rabbit' (N).

mošona 'a goose'. See **mašin**.

Mōtas 'Thomas' (Mothas: Mūtās G).

mugataθ 'folly' (mugadhath).

mugatān 'a fool' (mugadh, mugadhon: mongadān G). Irish amadān, with influence from **mong**, q.v.

mugel 'an apple' (mugel A, muggle G). *Mugel-ned'as*, *mugel-rāgli* 'an orchard'. Irish ubhall [ūl] 'an apple'; mogall in Irish means 'apple of the eye'.

mukin'e 'dwelling', 'living' (mukin, mukinya [γ ɪ f]). Irish comh-naidhe [kōnī] 'inhabiting', 'habitation'.

mul 'a woman' (mull G).

mund'ari 'lunch' (munjari). Probably cant from French *manger*.

mungin See **mut'i**.

1 muni (K) 'a dyke', 'wall'.

2 muni In the sentence *muni t'era* 'light the fire'. Perhaps from Irish adhnadh [eina] to 'kindle' a fire.

munik, **munika**, **munska** 'a name'. Perhaps Irish ainm 'name'; but cf. common cant word moniker.

munk'ri 'country' (munkera, munkeri, mackrey = monkery L'). *Munk'ri-nūd'a* 'a country fellow'; *gūt munk'ri* ['black country' =] 'an ill-omened place', 'place of witchcraft'; *Grūt Munk'ri* ['New Country' =] 'America'; *Lut'ra munk'ri* 'Ulster'; *Swurt-a-Munk'ri* ['Up-country' =] 'Munster'. Possibly from Irish tearmann 'a church glebe', but being a common cant expression may not be true Shelta.

munt'es 'tobacco' (munches, munshi K, mū'ncias A). *Lampa munt'es* 'tobacco-pouch'; *sāpa munt'es* 'twist tobacco', *šark munt'es* 'cut tobacco'.

mun'i 'good', 'well' (muni: mōinni, moryeni L, mū'ni A, muje G). Comparative *mun'ier*; *mun'ier grāsta* 'still more pleased'. Doubtful etymology.

mun'iaθ 'goodness', 'blessing' (muniath, muniarth). In (α) 'Heaven'. *Mun'iaθ a Dal'ōn dī'l* 'The blessing of God upon you'.

muskro 'a policeman' (N). Romani moskerō.

mut'i 'a rabbit' (muiti, mungin, mungen K).

mūrīn 'a cow' (mooreen G).

mūskōg 'a spoon' (mūstōg G). See **nūspōg**. Irish spūnōg, from English.

mūti, **mūtōg** 'a stocking' (G). Also **mūtana**. From Irish miotōg or mitīn 'a mitten'.

mwēn'a 'last', 'behind', 'yesterday' (mūénya, mūrénā, myēna). *Stēs a glox tārī-in mwēn'a mwīlša* 'There's a man talking behind me'. *Mwēn'a Grādni* 'Last Saturday'. Irish i ndiaidh [in'īay] 'behind'.

mwik 'West'. *Mwik glox* 'a Connacht man'.

Mwikamo 'Connacht'.

mwī'l, **mwīlša** 'I', 'me' (amīlth A). See **d'il**. Sometimes used for the plural, as in α, γ 2a. Genitive, **mwīlša's**.

mwog 'a pig' (mūog, mūogh L, moo-og G, mouge F, mough K). Irish muc.

M'

m'ali 'sweet' (mealaidh W, meali K). Perhaps Irish meala 'honey'.

m'aunes 'decent'. Irish deagh-nōs [d'ai-nōs] 'decency'.

m'aur 'fat'. *M'aur sugūn* 'fat bacon'; *skai m'aura* 'oil'. Irish reamhar [r'āuar] 'fat'.

m'auso 'a dance', 'a dancer', 'to dance' (β 40). *Mwīlša's a mun'i m'auso* 'I'm a good dancer'. Irish damhsa [dāusa] 'to dance'.

m'ena 'yesterday'. Irish indē. But see **mwēn'a**.

m'iskon 'a woman's breast' (miskon, myiskon). Etymology doubtful.

N

1 na 'of the' (γ 1a). Genitive of Irish article.

2 na 'in'. *Na-havari* 'at home'; *šērku na slī* 'daughter-in-law'.

nad'ram 'mother' (nadherum: naderum G, nā'dhrum A). *Nad'ram tom* 'grandmother' (γ 3g); *Nad'ram a Dal'ōn* ['Mother of God'=] 'The Virgin Mary'. Irish māthair [māher].

nagat 'a donkey' (naggat).

naker 'a tinker' (nacer G). See **mink'er**.

nalk 'to clean', 'to wash'. *Nalki* 'clean'. See **anált**.

nanti 'a turnip' (K).

- 1 nap 'white'. *Nap gored* ['white' =] 'silver money'. Irish *bān*.
- 2 nap 'to take off' [clothes]. *Napd a grifin* 'he took off his coat' (γ 1 b). Irish *bain*.
- 3 nap 'to milk'. *Goiḡera napin nad'ram's m'iskon* 'a sucking child'. Irish *bainne* 'milk'.
- 4 nap (n'ap) 'a turnip'. *Inoḡ niap* (G).
- 1 naper 'to meddle with'. *Naperd his d'īl* 'meddled with him' (γ 1 e). In γ 2 a, *nappin* should apparently be *naperin*. Etymology uncertain: Irish *bain* (?).
- 2 naper 'a spade' (*napr*, *nepr*). Irish *rāmhan*.
- nark 'a stitch'. See *nāk'*. G gives *a nork of inoc libis* 'a pinch of sugar'.
- nasd'ēš* 'here', 'with' (*násdēsh*, *násjēsh*). *Tōri nasd'ēš* 'come here!'
- nāk'* 'a stitch', in the sense of 'a small rag of clothing'. *Nid'ēš a nāk'* (β 76) '[He has] not a stitch [upon him]'. Irish *snāithe* [*snāh'e*], which is used in the same way. Irish *faic* [*fwāk*] is also used in the same sense and might be the origin of the word: but the *r* inserted in the spelling *nark* suggests that the *a* is long.
- nāp* 'to give' (*naup* G). Irish *gabh*.
- nglū* 'a nail' (*nglou* L).
- ng'aka* 'a tin can' (*ngeacca* G). Also *n'āka*.
- niba* 'a pin, pen'. *Niba lūrē* 'a needle'; *n. šl'uḡ* 'a pen'. English 'nib' or 'pin'.
- nimpa* 'a pint'. Corruption of English.
- nimpin* 'a pin' (G). Perhaps Irish *cipin* [*k'ip'in*] 'a small [wooden] pin'.
- nīd'a* 'a person', 'a fellow' (*nīdha*, *nīdya*: *noid* W, *noig* K; *nīja* G, *nīdia* L, *needi-mizzler* L' [= *nīd'a ar-mislo*]). *Nīd'ēš nīd'a* 'There is no one'; *nīd'a mun'i* 'an angel'; *nīd'ēš nīd'a but mūlša* ['no one but I' =] 'I am alone'. Irish *duine* [*dun'e*].
- nīd'ēš* 'no', 'not', 'nothing', 'do not', 'is or are not', and, generally, an expression of negation in assertion or command (*nīdash*, *nīdēsh*, *nīdyēsh*, *nyēsh*, *nījēsh*, *nījish*, *nījes*). *Nīd'ēš kari* 'do not buy'. *Nejish* (C), translated 'stand back! look out!' Irish *nī h-eadh* [*nī ha*] 'it is not'. Compare *stēš*.
- nīp* 'yellow'. *Nīp gloḡ* 'an Orangeman'. Irish *buidhe* [*bwī*].
- noḡ* Interrogative prefix = Latin *nonne*. Irish *nach* [*noḡ*].

nolk 'clean'. See **nalk**, and **anált**.

nolsk 'near'. *Tōri nolsk* 'come near'. Irish *i ndáil* [i nāl'] 'near'.

nongas 'tongs' (G). Also **mongas**. From English.

nōb'ri 'turf', 'peat', 'a bog' (*nōberi*: *nobera* G). *Nōb'ri Šeldrū* ['Bog-Shelta'=] 'Shelta'.¹ Compare the common phrase 'Bog-Latin'. Irish *mōn*.

nuga 'a gun' (*nugga*: *nuggus*, *nuggle* G). *Nuga b'in'i* 'a pistol'. Irish *gunna*, from English.

nulsk 'when?' *Nulsk you sūni mwīlša?* 'When [will] you [come to] see me?' Perhaps Irish *nuair* 'when', but this is not interrogative.

numpa 'a pound' (sterling or *avoirdupois*); (*nump*, *numpa* G), 'half sovereign'. *Šūkr numpa tul* 'five pounds' worth'; *numpa oid* 'a pound of butter'; *tom numpa* 'a bank note'. Irish *pūnt*.

nup 'back', 'at the back of'. *Sūnid the glox spurku the b'ōr' nup of the grē-ed* '[I] saw the man (misbehaving) behind the bridge'. Irish *muin*.

nuta 'a hat' (*nutha* F).

nūp 'to micturate'. *Nūp k'ena* 'a urinal'. Irish *mūn* 'urine'.

nūs Apparently used only in the expression *nūs a Dal'ōn* 'Blessing of God', 'for God's sake', 'with the help of God', and similar meanings. Irish *son*, used exclusively in the expression *ar son* 'for the sake of'.

nūspōg 'a spoon' (G). Irish *spūnōg*.

N'

n'akul 'to tie', 'a binding' (*nyakūrl*). *N. a mūti* 'a garter'; *n'akult* [*nyakerlt* γ 3d] 'tied', 'clasped'. Irish *ceangal*.

1 **n'āk** 'to lack'. Doubtful etymology.

2 **n'āk** 'a rogue' (*nyāk*, *nyark*). *Od nyāk mink'er* (γ 2a) 'Two rascals of tinkers'. Contraction of Irish *bitheamhnach* [*b'ihūnaχ* (?)], 'a thief'.

n'āka 'a bucket', 'can' (*nāga*). Irish *canna*, from English.

n'ākiš 'roguish'. 2 **n'āk**, with English formative suffix *-ish*. *N'ākiš rēglum* ['roguish iron'=] 'brass'.

¹ It is not clear whether this means 'Shelta' in general, or 'bad Shelta', i.e. a learner's halting effort at speaking Shelta. More likely the latter.

n'edas 'a place': 'to lodge' (nedas, nedhers, nyedhers: naddis, nadas G, nethrus='bed' C'). *K'en n'edas* [nedhers kena, nêdaskan (L')] 'a lodging-house'; *n. gâter* 'a drinking place', 'public-house', 'drinking booth'; *n. a Dal'on* 'Heaven'; *n. a mîder* 'Hell'; *n. a t'era* 'grate'; *n. ladu* 'a graveyard'; *n. rēlti* 'a camping place'; *n. šural* 'a racecourse'; *mugel-n'edas* 'an orchard'. Nyadas (L), translated 'table'. Irish ionad 'place'.

n'ēfin 'shame' (nyēfn). An eifish 'a shame' (G): read *a nēf'iš*. Doubtful etymology.

n'ērp 'to smell', 'a smell'. Irish brēan 'fetid'.

N'ētas 'James' (Nyethus). Irish Sēamas [S'ēmas].

N'ikair 'Barlow', a Tinker surname.

n'īpa Used only in the phrase *kē n'īpa thū?* 'Where are you?' [Prof. Ō'Máille, University College, Galway, suggests to me that this may be a perversion of cé ndeachaidh tū? 'where have you gone?' Pronounced in the west of Ireland cē ndeaghaidh tū [ke n'īa tū], the p being inserted for disguise.]

n'ok 'to wish', 'to want'. *L'esk the b'ōr*, *n'ok to sūni her d'il* 'Tell the woman I want to see her'. Possibly Irish cion 'affection'.

n'ok'lur 'a chain' (nyokalūr). See **n'akul**.

n'okul 'a candle' (nyokurl: nuckle G). *N'okul sorš* 'a resin-candle'; *n'ukl'ōr* (nucleōir G) 'a match'. Irish coineall.

n'ugi 'a guinea' (nyuggi: nyō(d)gee 'a pound' L'). From English 'guinea'.

n'uk 'a head', 'top', 'penny': 'one' (numeral) (niuc G, nyock, nyok L' L, nyuk A). Plural *n'uki* as in *mūwīša's and dīlša's n'uki* 'our heads'. *Šēkr n'uk* 'threepence'; *n'uk a k'ena* 'roof of the house'. Irish ceann (k'an) 'head'. A gives nyūk='one', ōn nyūk='two', on the authority of one of his tinker informants, but admits that other tinkers laughed at these expressions.

n'urt 'now' (nurth, nyurth). Irish anois [anīs].

n'ūkal 'a bridle'.

O

1 od 'two' (od, ād: odd L'). *Od grifin* 'eight-pence'; *od t'alson* ['two half-crowns'=] 'five shillings'. *Ōd-lim* [he looked 'two sides'=] 'both ways' (γ 1b). In ordinal sense *od tūrkh sahu'd* 'the second time, he was drowned' (γ 1e). Irish dō.

2 od 'to' (preposition). *Od lim* 'beside'. Also 'too': *Stēš, and mun'i ol* 'Yes, and well too'. Irish do.

oid 'butter' (oidh, oiith: aidh L, ide G). *Oid t'erpu* ['cooked butter' =] 'cheese'. Etymology doubtful: Irish im is rather remote.

ola See *ela*.

olomi 'night' (dholimi (G) [= *th' olomi*].) *Olomi ahúnšk* 'to-night, this coming night'; *olomi aḡáram* 'to-morrow night'. Etymology doubtful.

olsk 'over', 'past'. *Šarū olsk od* 'a quarter past two'. Irish i n-ōl 'after'.

opagrō 'a shop' (G). See *gropa*.

oura 'a town' (G). See *āvali*.

P

Palantus 'England', 'English' (palanthus, parantus).

1 pāni 'water' (pāni G, pawnie K). Borrowed from Romani: the usual Shelta word is *skai*.

2 pāni 'a hare' (pānie G).

pek 'bread' (peck G).

pī 'mouth' (pee L, pī G). Apparently Hebrew *pī*, perhaps borrowed from Yiddish, perhaps a scholastic reminiscence.

pokkonus 'a magistrate' (N). Not Shelta: Anglo-Romani *po-konyus*, 'justice of the peace'.

porrac 'a Protestant' (G). See *blōrna*.

pras 'food'. See *brās*.

prask 'to break wind'.

R

rabēd' 'a cap' (rabēid G). Irish *bareud*.

rabista 'a parish' (rabbister). *Kūn'a a rabista* 'the parish priest'. Irish *parōiste*.

rabl'in 'a sheet' (raiblin G). *Nalki rabl'in* 'a clean sheet'. Irish *braitlin*.

radam 'war' (?). *Gloḡ radam* 'a soldier' (γ 1 d).

rā A gives *Nad'ram kē rā* [kerâ] *thu mo gāðera?* 'Mother, where did you leave my father?' Nothing like *rā* seems to occur elsewhere.

Rāb, Rābin 'Mary'. Irish *Māirín* [Mār'in].

rāg 'a car' (rawg L 'waggon'; roglan L 'a four-wheeled vehicle'; rawg F). *Rāg-t'era* [a 'fire-car' =] 'a train'. English *car*.

- rāgli** 'a garden'. Possibly Irish *garrdha*, but doubtful.
- rāk, rark** 'a way', 'manner'. *Arárk* 'in the same manner'; *that rark* 'then', 'in that case'. Possibly, but doubtfully, adaptation of *do réir* 'according to'.
- rāks** 'without'. Etymology doubtful.
- rāgli** 'to laugh' (*raglín* G 'laughing'; *r'ghoglin, gogh'leen* L). Irish *gáire*.
- rān'al** 'beer' (*rauniel, runniel* L). The word was never heard by Sampson (*Journal*, G.L.S. 1, ii, p. 219) and he supposed it to be another form of *sinál*. But R gives it in his vocabulary, from M'Cormick's *Tinkler Gypsies*. Etymology doubtful.
- Relantus** See *Rilantus*.
- rehti** See *riltög*.
- rengan** 'a kettle', 'pot' (K). Etymology doubtful.
- rēb** 'hay' (*rēib* G). *Grup rēb* 'a wisp of hay'.
- rēglum** 'iron' (*räglan, rēglan* L 'a hammer'; *riaglon* L 'iron'. Perhaps regain W 'kettle' should come here. *Rīglum* G 'a soldering-iron'). *N'akiš rēglum* 'brass'; *gūtena's rēglum tom* ['a smith's big iron' =] 'an anvil'; *māl'e rēglum* G 'a tinker's hand-stake'. Etymology doubtful.
- ribad** 'a hat' (*ribadh*). See *rabēd*'.
- rid'u** 'enceinte' (*ridū, ridyū*).
- Rilantu** 'Irish'. *Tār-in Rilantu* 'talking Irish'. Perversion of the word 'Ireland'.
- Rilantus** 'Ireland', 'Roman Catholic'. Compare *Palantus*.
- riltög** 'a quilt', 'a sheet' (*rilthug*). *Ned'as riltög* 'a camp'; *riltög-rēglum* 'sheet-iron'. Also *rehti*. Irish *braitleög*.
- rilū** 'mad' (*rilhu: rilye* G). *Gloḡ rilū* 'a lunatic'; *b'ōr' rilū* 'a mad woman'; *t'al rilū* 'half mad'. Irish *buile*. Perhaps to be spelt *ril'u*.
- rinškal** 'a sievemaking' (γ 3f).
- risp** 'to christen'. *Rispu* 'christening': *talósk rispa* 'Christmas Day'; *olomi risp* 'birthday' [or name-day?]. Either from *baisteadh* ('baptism') or the name *Críost* (Christ). In a rough note of Dr Sampson's *risp* is translated 'born'.
- rī** *Rī-mīder*, translated 'double devil'. There seems no other evidence for *rī*='double': possibly it is Irish *rī* 'king' and denotes a pre-eminence of diabolism in the person to whom the word is applied. [In γ 3h, however, it is applied to a woman.¹]

¹ But this is ambiguous: comparison with the following paragraph (γ 3i) suggests that the full expression should be *rī-mīder's karb* 'the king-devil's [=Satan's] old woman'.

Rībīn 'Bridget'.

rīk, rīrk 'a comb'. Irish *cīar*.

rīl'e 'intoxicating'. Perhaps identical with **rīlū**, which see.

rīpux 'a prostitute' (*rīpu, rīpuk*: *rīpoch* G, *reepuck* L'). In β 51, as a verb, 'to play the prostitute'. Irish *striopach*.

rīsbat 'a basket' (*rīspog*: *rīsbait*, *rāsbeth* A, *raspéid* G). *Rīspog lākīn* 'a basket-girl'. Irish *bascaod* [*baskēd*], from English.

rīsk 'a razor'. Irish *sgian*.

rīspūn 'a prison', 'gaol' (*reesbin* L', *réspun* L, *rispen*, *reespoon* G; *réspun* 'to steal' L). Irish *príosūn*, from English.

rīšpa 'a pair' (*rispes*: *réspes* L, *rīshpah* F 'a pair of trousers'). *Rīšpa gulīmas* 'a pair of boots'. Query, from Irish *briste* 'breeches'.

robikin 'rain' (*robicin, robbiniuc* G).

rodus 'a door' (*rudhus*: *rodus* G). Leland's impossible *th'm'ddusk* seems to be a misreading of *th'ruddusk* in a badly written note (*th*'=English 'the'). Leland's handwriting was not of the most legible. Irish *doras*.

roiḡa 'a card' (playing-card). Probably from Irish *cārta* 'a card'.

rubōg 'a box', 'a bag'. Irish *mealbhōg* [*m'alwōg*] 'a bag'.

rud'u 'a sweetheart': 'to woo'. Etymology doubtful.

rud'uaθ 'courtship' (*rujūiath*).

ruket 'a bucket'. English.

ruspān 'a purse'. Irish *sparān*.

rūmōg 'an egg' (*rumug*: *rumogh* L', *rumug* L, *rūmōgh*, plur. *rūmōghe* A). See **grōmug**.

rūsiki 'a basket'. See **rīsbat**.

S

-sa, -ša Irish emphatic suffix, especially after pronouns, as in *mo d'il-ša, mwīl-ša*.

sacānta 'quiet' (*sucānti* G). Irish *macānta*.

sahu, satu 'to drown', 'drowning'. *To be sahud* 'to be drowned' (γ 1d). Irish *bāthadh* [*bāha*] 'drowning'.

saiher 'a chair'. Irish *cathaoir* (*kaḥīr*).

sakel 'to demolish'. *Saklīn inširt* (G) 'pulling down'. Irish *leagadh*.

sak'rente (*sakerente*). *Gloḡ s.* 'a respectable man'. Query, from Irish *galānta* (=English 'gallant').

salk, solk 'to take', 'to arrest'. *Salt* (properly *salk't* L) 'arrested'.

L also gives *salkaneoch* 'to taste or take': this is *salk inox*. 'To take' (advice) (γ 3k). 'To shut', 'close', 'steal' (G). *Salk the t'imas and grēdi a buri t'era* (G) 'Get the sticks and make a good fire'. Perhaps Irish *glac*, but this means rather 'to accept' than actively 'to take'.

salta 'a belt' (saltha). *Šlia salta* 'a leather belt'. Irish beilt, from English.

Sartin 'Martin' (G).

satu See **sahu**.

Sat'lin 'Kathleen', 'Kate'. Irish Cāitilín [Kāt'il'in].

Sāhon 'Kane', a surname. Irish Cathāin [Kaḥān].

sārċk' 'a field'. Irish pāirc [pārk']. Compare **grārċk'**.

sgrubul 'a tail' (sgrübūrl). Irish earball [ér'bal].

sg'ibōl 'a barn'. Irish sgiobōl. Diminutive *sgiobōlīn* (G). See also **šk'ibl'in**.

Sibi n. prop. fem. (= 'Sabina' or the like), β 37. Vocative **Hibi**, β 74.

siblīn 'a boy' (G). Diminutive of **sūbl'i**, q.v.

sik 'some'. Irish cuid 'a portion, share'. [Probably to be written **sik'**.]

sikdūr' 'a doctor' (sicdūir G). Irish doctūir [doktūr'].

simi 'broth' (simmy N). Anglo-Romani zimin.

sināl 'beer' (sinaul, sunōl). Compare **rān'al**. Doubtful etymology.

sinta 'a pint'. *Sinta luš* (G) 'a pint of porter'. From English.

siskār 'a sister' (G). Also **šišer**. From English.

sik In the expletive *Dalōn sīk sudil* (G), translated 'Good God Almighty'. Etymology doubtful.

skai 'water', 'sea': 'to sail' (skoichen L 'rain'; shoich L 'water', 'blood', 'liquid'; scoi G). *He skaid his d'il* 'he threw himself into the water' (γ 1e). *Skai-grūt* 'America'. *Skai m'aura* 'oil'. *Skai šural* 'a river'. *Hal skai* 'over the sea'; *skait* 'transported'. Irish uisge [is'g'e].

skaihan 'a sailor'. *Skaihan havari* 'a sailor's home'.

skaihōp 'whisky' (skaihōpa: skoihopa L). *Skaihōp grūla* ['apple whisky' =] 'cider'. Irish uisge beatha [is'g'e b'aḥa] 'water of life'.

skai-t'elpi lit. 'cooked water' (scoitchelpi (G) 'tea with milk and sugar').

Skaitwurd 'Waterford'. (*Skai* = 'water', *twurd* a perversion of *ford*.)

skāfer 'silver' (skawfer, skawper L) [sic: but perhaps a mistake for 'solder'].

skēv 'a fish'. *B'ōr' skēv* 'a fishwife'; *skēv šrugū* ['a speckled fish' =] 'a trout'. K gives selvings = 'fish', which is probably not true Shelta. Irish iasg.

- skipsy** 'a basket' (N). Anglo-Romani kipsi.
- sklātaχ** 'tea' (sclataich W).
- skoi** 'a button' (skoich L).
- skok** 'water' (scoc G). See **skai**.
- skol'a** 'to know' (skolaia L). Perhaps Irish eolas 'knowledge'; or connected with **sgol** 'a school'.
- skol'ami** 'a good scholar' (L).
- skōbug** 'a ship'.
- skōp** 'open' (scōp G). Irish fosgail 'open'.
- skraχo** 'a tree, bush'. Also **šk'aχo**, **škrāχ**. Irish sgeach.
- skrāl** 'decent' (skraul). Etymology doubtful.
- skrīn** 'to counterfeit money' (G).
- skriv** 'a cart' (K). Probably not Shelta.
- skrubol** 'a well'. *Skai skrubol* 'a water well'. Irish tobar.
- skudal** 'a herring'. Irish scadan.
- skukar** 'five'. See **šūkr**.
- skurik** 'a farthing' (skurrik, skurrig [γ ɪd]).
- skurlum** 'to burn' (skuldrum, skürdhem). Irish loisg.
- slang** 'a chain'. Irish sreang 'a rope'; but 'slang' is also a well-known cant word for a chain.
- slāhog** 'a rat'. *B'in'i slāhog* 'a mouse'; *tom slāhog* 'a rat'. Irish luchōg [luχōg] 'a rat', 'mouse'.
- slāsk** 'a lock' (slarsk). *Slāsk a skai* 'a water-lock' (of a canal) (γ ɪd). Irish glas.
- slāska** 'a belt'. Query, from Irish crios 'a girdle'.
- slāsker** 'a locksmith'.
- slāta** 'a plate, dish' (slatha). Irish plāta.
- slesker** *Tom slesker* is interpreted as meaning 'a farmer'.
- slim** *Slim your d'il* (A) 'to beat you'. Query Irish lēasaim 'to lash'.
- slī** 'law'. *Šērku nā slī* (γ ɪd) 'daughter-in-law'. Irish dlighe [dlī].
- sloχa** 'rotten'. Irish lobhtha (lōfa).
- slosk** 'kitchen'.
- slug** 'to fall'. Etymology doubtful.
- slum** 'good' (K).
- slun'a** 'glass' (sluna, slunya). *T'al slun'a* 'a half-glass' (of drink); *bug me a slun'a* 'give me a glass'. Irish gloinne [glin'e].

sluxul, sruḡul 'a wood'.

slūfa 'wood'.

slūn 'Monday'. Irish Dīa Lūain (d'ī'lūan').

slūpen 'a watch' (sloopen N).

slūya 'soot'. Irish suithche [suhχ'e].

smaχ 'to spit'.

smarag 'a nose' (smär'agh A). See mērko.

smālk'ra 'a wooden spoon' (smolkera). Irish smalcaire.

smentena 'cream' (smentenna). Romani.

smugal 'an anvil' (smuggle L).

snēl 'a needle', 'a rush'. *Snēly* 'rushy'; *carnān* [Irish word] *snēly* 'a heap of rushes' (γ 3g).

sori 'burial' (sorhi). Irish tōrramh [tōrā].

sorm 'blue'. Irish gorm.

sorš 'resin'. Irish roisīn [ros'in].

sprazi 'a sixpence' (sprazie G). Also *aspra*, q.v.

spurk 'coīre' 'to flirt', and related meanings, expressing various degrees of immorality. Participle, *spurku*. Irish corbadh: or perhaps Anglo-Irish slang "sparkin'" (=playing the gallant).

spurk'ra 'a fornicator', male or female, though the word may sometimes be used in a milder sense (spurkera).

sragāsta 'breakfast' (sragaster). Irish bricfeasta, from English.

sragon, srāgon 'cloth'. *Mun'i sragon grifin* 'a good cloth coat'.

sraiḡa 'a clerk' (γ 2b). Perhaps Irish cleireach, with apocope of first syllable.

sramala 'a robber' (srammurla). *Srumalin the mun'kra* (G) 'robbing the country'.

Sranī 'Mary' (G).

srascoat 'a waistcoat' (G). English. Compare *graskot*.

sraskin 'a dish' (G). Irish miosgān.

srat 'a gate' (G). Irish geata. Also sluta (G).

Srat'rin 'Catherine' (G).

srāχ 'a cake' (G). Irish cāca.

Srāχū 'Crosby', a surname. Irish Mac an Chrosāin [χrosān'].

srāpa, sāpa 'string'. *Strāpa munt'es* 'twist tobacco'. Irish rōpa, from English.

srent 'to rave'. Participle *srentu* (β 23).

srēk, srīk 'done', 'finished'. Irish crīoch [kr'īχ] 'end'.

Srikel 'Michael' (G).

sringan 'drink' (G). *S. rīl'e* 'intoxicating drink'.

sriš 'a basin' (G). English 'dish' (also *šriš*).

srittle 'a kettle' (G). English 'kettle' (also *šrittle*).

sřidug 'a kingdom', 'a reign'. Irish *rioghacht* [rīyax̣t].

sřid 'a wine' (*sřidya*, *sřīḡa*).

sřigo 'a king'. *B'ōr' sřigo* 'a queen'. Irish *rīgh*.

sřilik 'a wheel'. Irish *roithleōg*.

sřintul 'a friend' (*sřīnthul*). Compare **grīntala**.

sřipa 'a button'. Query, from Irish *cnap*.

sřiš 'a week' (*sřīs* G).

sroid'an 'morning', 'in the morning' (*sroidyan*, *sroiĵan*, γ 1c). Irish *maidin*.

Sřortan 'Martin' (G). Also **Šřortan**.

sřotar 'a key' (*sřoṭhar* G). Also **šřoḡar**, **šuxar**, **šorik**. Irish *eochar*.

sřōmēd 'a minute' (*sřōmeid* G). See **sumad**'.

Sřōn'e 'the River Boyne' (*sřōinya*). Irish *Bōinne* [in genitive case].

sřōpa 'string'. *Sřōpa rēglum* 'a chain'. See **sřāpa**.

sřug 'a jug' (G). English 'jug'.

sřunta 'a pint'. English 'pint'.

sřurd 'a table'. Irish *bord*.

stafa 'long', 'far', 'late'. *Stafa tober* 'a long road' (but *tober stafa* 'a main road'); *nīd'eš stafa* 'never'; *nīd'eš krad'i stafa* 'don't stay late'; *stafa dī'lša* 'far from you'; *nīd'eš stafa buga dī'lša* 'I'll never give it to you'; *stafa talōšk* 'spring'. **Stoffie** (G) 'quickly' is probably the same word. Irish *fada*.

stafara, -*ri* 'a prayer' (*s'thaffice* G). *Stafaris* 'prayers', 'blessings'. *Stafri* as plural appears in γ 2a. Irish *paidir* (?).

stall 'lodgings' (G).

stama 'a letter', 'paper'.

stamēr 'a [money] note' (bank- or treasury-note) (*stamēir* G).

stam'ra 'to spit' (*stamara*).

stardy 'a hat' (N). Romani *stādi*.

stāl *Sihāl your whids*, or *sthāl your torrying* (G), translated 'stop talking'. Probably, like 'stall' (L'), cant, not true Shelta (Sampson).

stān 'tin' (G). *Stān šriš* 'a tin basin'. Also **strān**. Irish.

Stān 'John' (G).

stedi 'to stand' (stedhi). Also **šedi**.

stēš 'yes': 'yes is', 'indeed', 'also', 'and'; 'this, that, or here is'; 'I have'; and a variety of related meanings. Used also in opposing a previous statement (like Anglo-Irish 'sure'), 'but in reality' (γ 2a). *Stēš šeltu nid'as* 'here are seven persons'. *Can I inoχ my st'ima at the t'era?* **Stēš** (G) 'May I light my pipe at the fire? You may'. (In such a question 'can' is almost invariably used for 'may' in Anglo-Irish.) *Stēš mwīlša's nad'ram* 'here is my mother'; *stēš gloχ* 'the same man'. From Irish *tā sē*, or is *ē* 'he is': probably the two verbs mixed up together.

stiff 'writing paper'. Cant, not Shelta (Sampson).

stofi See **stafa**.

Stofirt, Stofrik 'Patrick'.

stoxa 'soft'.

straihmed 'a year' (L). Irish *bliadhain*.

strān See **stān**.

stretch 'a year'. Probably English word, but compare **straihmed**.

strides 'trousers' (G). Probably English cant.

stripuχ 'a harlot' (strèpuck L'). Irish *striopach*. See **ripuχ**.

strod 'a boot' (K). Irish *brōg*.

strumble 'straw' (G).

sturt 'in', 'into', 'inner'. See **astúrt**. *Gilifon sturt* 'an inner waistcoat'. Irish *isteach* [is't'aχ] 'inside'.

st'ēmon 'a rat' (styēmon L).

st'ima 'a pipe', 'bagpipe', 'tobacco-pipe' (st'ima A, steamer G, stioma, stiomagar K). Irish *piopa*. Also **št'ima**.

st'im'ra 'a piper' (stimerā, styūmera: stiomara K: shliéma L, but the l must be a t left uncrossed). *St'im'ra dī'lša, a st'ima aga dī'lša* 'If you are a piper, have your own pipe'. *Šorikin-lub st'im'ra* 'a key-hole whistler', a technical term for a ragged begging vagrant. Also **št'im'ra**.

1 **st'imon** 'a neck'. Irish *pīobān* 'windpipe'. Also **št'imon**.

2 **St'imon** 'Michael' (styimon, stchūmon).

suba Uncertain word, explained as 'not much account'. See the sentence under **šang**, below. Perhaps Irish *seabhōid* [s'awōd'] 'nonsense'.

subax 'a boar'.

- subōl** 'a bottle' (suburl). *Subōl a' skai* 'a bottle of water'. Irish buidéal.
- sud** 'to mix'. Irish suaithim.
- sud'ata** 'company'. Irish cuideachta [cud'aɣta].
- sugad** *Gloɣ sugad* 'a doctor'. Irish liaigh (?).
- 1 sugū** 'war'. Irish cogadh [cogū] 'war'.
- 2 sugū** 'sly', 'fun'. *Grēdin sugū* 'making fun'. Irish magadh [magū]; or perhaps sūgach 'funny'.
- sugūn** 'bacon' (sugurn). Irish bagūn.
- sul'an** 'a baby' (suilleán W, suilin, suileán K).
- sumad** 'a minute', 'moment' (simaja, srumad, sumaj). Irish nōimid [nōmid].
- sumōl** 'a robber': 'to rob'. See sramala.
- sup** 'a few' (G).
- surdu** 'trade'. *Gloɣ surdu* 'a tradesman'. See 3 surgu.
- surgon** 'a bargain'. Irish margadh, or English 'bargain'.
- 1 surgu** 'a thorn'.
- 2 surgu** 'sea'. Irish fairrge.
- 3 surgu** 'market'. See surdu. Irish margadh.
- surk** 'to hang'. *Gloɣ surku* 'hangman'. Irish crochadh.
- surɣa** 'tired'. *Mwīlša's nap's surɣa* 'my back is tired'; *nurth bug surɣa* (written surhū) 'now he is getting tired' (ɣ 1 d). Irish cortha.
- surtul** 'plough' (surthul).
- sušgad** 'a small pot'.
- sūbl'i** 'brother', 'friend', 'fellow', 'a man', 'a boy' (subri, sōbli, sūibli, swibli [ɣ 2 a], swubli: soobli L, soobri L', sobyé L, sōbli C'). Like Romani 'pal', used in addressing a friend or equal.
- sūbl'in** Diminutive of sūbl'i.
- sūl'a** 'around' (ɣ 1 a).
- sūni** 'to see', 'to look' (or sūni. The Liverpool evidence is on the whole in favour of the short u, but the evidence for ū is strong. Sooney G, sauni, sonni L', sūnain L). *I sonnied him* (L') 'I saw him'; *slun'a swūner* 'a looking-glass'; *gloɣ sunal* 'a showman'; *sūnis* the 'looks' of anyone; *sunal* 'like'; *sūnal* 'seeing' (β 76), 'resembling' (β 84).
- sūpla** *Sūpla talōsk* 'a few days'. Irish cūpla 'couple'.
- sūrk, swūrk** 'hair'. Irish grūag.

- swudal** *Gloḡ swudal* 'a gentleman'. Also **swuda** [swuder]: *b'ōr' swuda* 'a lady'; *Dal'ōn swuda* 'God Almighty'. See **swurt**.
swurk 'to sing' (swurko). *Swurkal* (sorcan G) 'singing'; *swurkal grēt'in* 'a singing bird'.
swurkin 'a song'. *Glōri the swurkin* 'listen to the song'.
swurk'ra 'a singer'. *Stēs a mun'i swurk'ra* 'he's a good singer'.
swurt 'on', 'upon', 'up', 'above' (swurth). *Swurt a munk'ri* ['up country' =] 'Munster'. *B'ōr' a k'ena nīd'eš grāsta solk grīl' gloḡ swurt the mam'rum* 'The woman of the house won't be pleased to take a sick man up to the room'. *Swurt a mun'iaθ* 'up in Heaven' (α); *luš swurt* 'drink up!', i.e. drink quickly. Probably Irish suas 'up'.

Š

- šakar** 'four'. See **šarka**.
šako 'to sin': 'a sin'. Irish *peacadh* [p'ako].
šal'wa 'dumb' (salawa). *Šlug šal'wa* 'a tongueless bell'. Irish *balbh* [balw].
šam 'a boy' (G). *Are you g'ami, šam?* 'Are you sick, lad?' Apparently a perversion of **kam**, q.v.
šan 'steam' (K).
šang 'to think', 'to understand'. Also spelt **shüng**. *Mwīlša šangs the gloḡ tāri-in suba* 'I think the man is speaking not much of account'. Query, from Irish meas.
šangar 'a snake', 'an eel'.
šant 'a pint'. *Šant a gāter* 'a pint of ale'. English Shelta only.
šarag 'a kiss' (C).
šaragi 'a soldier' (Gleoch sharragy G). Irish *saighdiūr* [said'ūr].
šarig 'to vex'. Irish *crādh*.
šark 'to cut', 'a cut'. *Šark a dura* 'a slice of bread'; *I'll šark your n'uk when I misli aḡim* 'I'll cut your head when I go out'; *šark brauen* 'to reap'. Irish *gearradh*.
šarka, šarkr 'four'. *Šarkr skaihōp* 'a quart of whisky'. Properly **šākr**.
šarker 'a cutter', 'an axe', 'scissors'. *Od šarker* (lit. 'two-cutter') 'a pair of scales' (β 76); *šarcúrs* (G) 'shears'.
1 šarog 'red', 'red-haired'. *Šarog fē* 'raw meat'. Irish *dearg* [d'arg].
2 šarog 'vexed'.
šarpōg 'a boy' (G). Irish *gasūr*.

šaru 'a quarter' (β 27). Irish ceathramhadh [k'ahru].

1 šākr 'a brother' (šarkar; also sikar, sicdar, šikar G). Irish brāthair.

2 šākr, šāka 'four' (seácer G). Irish ceathar.

šārk 'clever' (sáirc G).

šeb, šib 'to call', 'to name'. G writes séb, as though šēb. Etymology doubtful.

šedi 'to stand', 'to mend' (sedhi). As preposition, 'on', 'upon' (α). Irish stad (?).

Šeldrū 'Shelta', the tinker's cant (Sheldhrū, Sheldhru, Shildrū, Shildhrū, Shelta, Shelto, Sheldero, Shelru). *Nōb'ri Šeldru* 'bog-Latin', 'bog-Shelta'. Irish bēla, bēarla 'language', 'jargon'.

šelk 'to sell' (L': also spelt shē-ēlk L, sílc G). Irish reac?

šeltu 'seven'.

šē 'six' (sai, sy L'). Šē n'uk 'sixpence'. Irish sē (s'ē).

šēd 'police' (shade G). *Are there šēds in the grag'? Is there a šēds-k'en in the grag'?* (G) 'Are there police—Is there a police-barrack—in the town?' Shadyog (L) 'policeman' = šēd-g'ūk. Query, slang from English shade (cf. 'to shadow').

šēkar 'a sister' (šelkar, šērkr). *B'ōr' šēkar* 'a nun'. Irish siūr, genitive seathar 'sister'.

šērku 'daughter'. Šērku na slī 'daughter-in-law' (γ 1 d). Etymology doubtful. Welsh merch (?).

šib See šeb.

šingomai 'a newspaper' (L).

šišer 'Irish'.

šidrug 'a soldier', 'policeman' (shaidyog, shadyog L). See šēd.

šikr, šika 'three' (šēka). Šikr n'uk 'threepence'.

širk 'grass'. *Gušin ned'as a' širk* 'sitting down on the grass'. Irish fēar [fēr].

širt 'down', 'downward'. Širt gāter to kam 'down from father to son'; širt a munk'ri 'down the country'. Irish sīos [s'is].

ši-u 'to sow'. Irish siol [s'īl] 'seed' (?).

škimis 'to drink'. *Air a sgeamas* 'drunk' (W). Irish meisge 'drunk'.

škimišk 'drunk' (škimašk, škimeršk, skimišts: ishkimmisk L, sgeamhas, isgeamhas K, scimeis G).

škimišter 'a drunkard'.

škrāx 'a tree'. Šarkin škrāxs 'cutting trees'. Irish sgeach 'a bush', especially a whitethorn.

šk'ibl'ín 'a barn'. See sg'ibōl.

šlāka 'a cloak'. Irish clōca, from English.

šlī-a 'leather'. Šlī-a sālta 'a leather belt'. Irish leathar [l'aħar].
This word should almost certainly be spelt sl'ī-ar.

šlōh'a 'ashes' (γ 3d). Irish luaith [lōh].

1 šlug 'a bell' (also slug). Šlug šal'wa 'a dummy of a bell';
šlug māl'a 'a hand-bell'. Irish clog [klug].

2 šlug 'slow', 'weak', 'slowly': 'to fall'. Also slug. Irish lag
'weak'.

šl'an 'ale' (A). Irish leann.

šl'ēm 'to leap'. Irish l'eim.

šl'ēma 'a frog'.

šl'ī-uχ 'to read' (shlīχ, shlūχ). Gloχ šl'ī-uχ 'a schoolmaster'. Irish
leigheadh (l'ē-aχ) 'reading'.

šl'ī-uχter 'a scholar'. D'arβ šl'ī-uχter 'a real scholar'.

šl'uχ 'rain'. Irish fiuch [fl'uχ] 'wet'.

šl'uχu 'wet'. Šl'uχu talósk 'a wet day'.

šorik 'a key'. Šorikin-lub 'a keyhole'. See šroχar.

šorknes 'cursing' (šorknesing G). Etymology doubtful.

šoru 'a wake', 'funeral'. Irish tōrramh [tōrā] 'a funeral'.

Šreik, Šreikel (rhyming with 'strike') 'Michael' (Shrike, Shrikel G).

šriš 'a basin' (G). English 'dish'.

šrittle 'a kettle' (G). English 'kettle' (pron. 'kittle' in the country
districts of Ireland).

šroχar 'a key' (G). Irish eochair (oχar').

Šrortan 'Martin' (G).

šrug 'a jug' (G). English 'jug'. Also srug.

šrugū 'spotted', 'speckled'. Škēv šrugū ['a spotted fish' =] 'a
trout'. Irish breac 'speckled'.

št'īma 'a pipe'. See st'īma.

1 Št'īmon 'Michael'.

2 št'īmon 'a neck'. Irish muinéal (?).

št'im'ra See st'im'ra.

šud'ēl 'a bottle' (shudēil G). Irish buidéal [bud'ēl].

šukar 'a jar' (sieucar K). Irish crūsca.

šuχar 'a key' (shuchar G). See šroχar.

šum 'to own' (shum L). Doubtful. Perhaps Irish tā sē uaim
('I want it') misheard and misunderstood.

šuri 'to run' (Suri G). *Šural* 'running'; *kam'ra šural* 'a greyhound'; *kuri-šural* 'a racehorse'. Irish rith.

šurier ['a runner' =] 'a wheel'. Also *surier*. *Lorc-šurier* 'a cart-wheel'.

šuše 'rabbit' (N). Romani.

šūkr, šūka 'five'. *Šūka numpa* 'five pounds'; *šūka g'et'a* ['five-score' =] 'a hundred'.

T

talop 'belly' (thulop, thalop). *Talop tân* or *talopđ* 'enceinte'. Irish bolg.

talósk 'day' (thalosk, tarosk). *Mun'i talósk* 'a fine day'; *talósk min'úrt* 'to-day'; *t. awárt* 'one day'; *t. ērpa* 'another day'; *stafa talósk* 'spring'; *grīnta talósk* 'fair-day'; *kurbug talósk* 'market-day'. In L 'weather'. Irish lāithe 'day'.

tarpōn 'porridge' (thirpon). Irish bracān.

tarsp 'to die', 'dead', 'death' (tharsp: thawsp G). *Tarspin lī* 'death bed'; *that glox's nīd'eš tarsp, he's tǎp min'úrt* 'that man's not dead, he's alive now'. Transitively: *that the mīdril may tarsp you* 'that the devil may cause your death'; *tarsp gut may lūber him* 'may black death strike him (down)'. Irish marbh.

tar'in 'rope' (tarryin L). Irish srian 'rein' (?).

taši 'to read' (L). Very doubtful: perhaps part of an imperfectly understood Irish sentence beginning *tā sē* 'it is'.

tād'ir 'strong', 'hard' (thadyur, thadr, thadyol, thardyur, tād'ōl). Irish lāidir.

tād'iraθ 'strength' (thardyūrath) (α).

tāral 'talk', 'saying', 'mode of speech', 'language'. *Tāral a lut'ra* 'north-country talk'; *tāral grīt'in* ['a talking bird' =] 'a parrot'.

tāri 'to talk': 'talk', 'language' (thā'ri A, thari L; thāri L'; a-tharyin 'talking' L). *Nīd'eš tāri'in* ['let there be no speaking' =] 'don't talk'. G writes thawreen, shewing the two i's of tāri-in coalescing. *Tāri'in* = 'a talking', 'a manner of speech'; *tāri'in a mīdril* ['talk of the devil' =] 'blasphemy' (γ 1d). *Tārier* 'a speaker' (γ 2a). *Tārīm* (G) 'talk'; *tārīn* (G) 'language'. Irish rāid 'he said'.

1 **tân** 'full'. Irish lān.

2 **tân** 'a day' (tawn G). *A buri, a g'ami tân* 'a fine', 'a bad day'.

3 **tân** 'small' (G). Etymology doubtful.

tâp, tâpa 'alive'. Irish beatha [b'aha] 'life'.

tirpa (thirpa) *Tirpa glox* 'a ragman'. Irish ceart 'a rag'.

tirpög 'a rag'. *Tirpög grīto* ['wind-rag'] or *t. mislo* ['going-rag'] 'a sail'; *t. k'ena* 'a rag-shop'.

töim, täim 'white' (K).

tom, tōm 'big', 'great', 'many'. *Tom gured* ['big money' =] 'gold'; tom yok, i.e. *tom g'ūk* (L) 'a big man', 'a magistrate'; *tom slesker* 'a farmer'; *tom numpa* (L) 'a bank note'. As adverb, 'violently'; *miš it tom* 'hit it hard'; *tomier* 'bigger'; *atomier* 'rather'. The o is marked long or short indifferently; but it seems to be always long in **tōmān**, q.v. Irish mōr.

tomiaθ 'bigness'.

topa 'brave', 'fine' (thopa, thopan). *Topa t'imi* 'a fine stick'. Etymology doubtful.

tōber 'a road' (thōber). *Kriš tōber* ['an old road' =] 'a lane'; *b'in'i tōber* ['a small road' =] 'a path'; *tōber swurt* 'a high road'; *tōber širt* 'a lower road'; *tōber stafa* 'a main road'. *Do the šēds misli this tōber?* (G) 'Do the police patrol this road?' Irish bothar [bōħər].

tōmān 'much', 'great'. *Bug tōmān* 'give a lot!'; *tōmān l'agun* 'a great loss'; *toman gured* may mean 'too much money' or 'how much money' (γ 1d). Irish mōrān.

tōri 'to come'. *Tōri nasdēš* 'come here'. Irish tar.

tōrog 'a tramp' (C').

trē-n'uk 'a threepence' (L').

tribli 'a family'. In γ 1a used apparently to denote a large number of people. Irish teaghlach [t'alax], genitive teaghlaiħ [t'a-lī].

trīp 'a sup', 'drop' (thrīp). *Trīp a gāter* 'a sup of drink'; *trīp a skai* 'a sup of water'. Etymology uncertain; one of a class of quasi-onomatopoeic words like drīog, srubh, flip, etc. all meaning 'drop'.

trīpus 'a fight': 'to fight' (γ 1d, γ 3j). Etymology doubtful.

tug 'a shawl' (G). Etymology doubtful.

tul 'worth', 'price' (thwuol, thol). *N'uk's tul* 'a pennyworth'. Irish luach.

turan 'a loaf' (W). Perhaps Irish arān 'bread', but doubtful.

turpög 'a rag'. See tirpög.

tū 'thou'. Irish.

tūr 'anus'. Also 'bottom' (of a river), γ 1d. Irish tōn.

1 türk 'up'. Irish suas.

2 türk 'time'. *Nid'eš türk* 'never'; *goixil türk* [every time], 'always'; *šīkr türk* 'three times' (γ 1b). Irish uair.

T'

t'al 'half' (chal). *T'al g'et'a* ['half-score' =] 'ten'; *t'al grēt'in* ['a half-bird' =] 'a linnet', 'canary'; *t'al kuri* ['a half-horse' =] 'a mule', 'jennet'; *t'al miltōg* ['a half-shirt' =] 'a dickey', 'shirt-front'; *t'al nimpa* 'a half-pint'; *t'al numpa, t'al inoχ'n'ap* (G) 'a half-sovereign'; *t'alsōn, tāirsūr'n* (G) *charrshom, cherrshom, tusheroon* (L) 'a half-crown'; *t'al slun'a* 'a half-glass'. *Swurt t'al the skai* 'half out of the water'. Irish *leath* [l'ah] 'half'.

t'ant 'a gill' (chant). Also **kant**.

t'an'uk 'a halfpenny'. Contracted from **t'al-n'uk**.

t'āla See **cāla**. G gives *talrōg* 'knife'.

t'elp 'to boil' (chelp G). See **t'ērp**.

t'era 'fire', 'fuel' (chera G, therra, thirra, theddy L, thēdy A, tur W, teori K, terri 'coal' L; terry 'a heating-iron' L). Irish *teine* [t'en'ə]. The forms with *d* indicate an alternative *t'ēdi*.

t'erp 'to lie'. See **k'erp**.

t'ērp 'to cook', 'to boil' (cherp, cherrp). Irish *berbhim* [b'ervim].

t'ērpīn 'a finger, toe' (chēvpīn, chēpīn, chēspīn, chērpīn: chē'rpīn A, chairpīn G). *T'. a' māl'a* 'finger'; *t'. a' kōli* 'toe'; *tom t'* 'thumb' or 'great toe'; *t'. slug* 'a finger-bell'. Irish *meur* [m'ēr] 'a finger' 'toe' (?).

t'ēt A generic word like **inoχ** 'thingamy'—used when the specific name is unknown or does not present itself. Used in many senses and combinations: see Russell's vocabulary, s.v. *tshat* and references there. Probably not true Shelta.

t'ini 'fire' (chini A). Irish *teine*. See **t'era**.

t'inoχ 'a thing': variant of **inoχ**. *T'inoχ a dura* 'frying-pan'; *t'inoχ awārt* . . . *t'inoχ a-ola* 'the one [person or thing] . . . the other'; *t'inoχ awart mink'er* 'one of the tinkers'; *t'inoχ kriš in the grēdan* ['an old thing in the face' =] 'a wrinkle'; *t'inoχ karib* ['the killing thing' =] 'poison'.

t'oli 'to follow' (cholli: tolsk, tori G). Irish *leanaim* [l'anaim] (?).

t'ūχ 'clothes' (chīūχ). Irish *ēadach* 'clothes'.

U

ugum (uggum, γ 3e). Irish *agam* 'at' or 'with me'.

uχ 'necessity', 'need'. Also **ucaid**. Irish *uchaim*.

umpi Doubtful word in the sentence *Sūbl'i umpi stafa nīd'eš*, translated 'Boy, don't be long'.

V

vonger 'money' (N). Means 'coals' in Anglo-Romani.

W

waddler 'a duck' (G). English.

wart 'one'. Cf. *awárt*, which is the proper form. *T'inox awárt* 'one thing'; *l'iman wart* 'one year'. Irish *amháin* [aṽān] 'alone, single, one'.

wed 'money' (wedge N). Doubtful.

wid 'tea' (weed G). English 'weed'.

wobbler 'a goat' (G). Not English, but a perversion of Irish *gabhar* [gaw'r].

Y

yar, yor 'penis'. See *g'or*. *Ned'as a yar* 'brothel'.

yergan 'tin'.

yēdug 'a lady' (y ɪ d). Rhyming slang. See *lēdōg*.

yišgad See *l'išgad*.

yirk 'wit'. See *l'irk*.

yīrt 'again' (yīrth, y ɪ b). See *ayirt*.

Yitus 'Peter'.

yōrum 'milk' (G).

yūk 'a man'. See *g'yūk*.

yūk'ra 'a beggar'. See *g'yūk'ra*.

yūr 'a clock' (yewr N). Probably cant, derived from Yiddish; but cf. Romani *yora, ora*, 'a watch or clock; hour'.

THE SECRET LANGUAGES OF IRELAND

WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE
TO THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF

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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Macalister, Robert Alexander Stewart, 1870-1950.
The secret languages of Ireland.

Reprint of the 1937 ed. published by the University
Press, Cambridge.

1. Shelta. 2. Irish language--Writing. 3. Cant.
4. Irish language--History. 5. Druids and druidism.
II. Sampson, John, 1862-1931. II. Title.

PM9001.M2 1974 491'.6 74-1322

ISBN 0-8414-6115-5 (lib.bdg.)

REPRODUCED FROM THE ORIGINAL

MANUSCRIPT

1937

Limited 100 Copies

Manufactured in the United States of America.



CAMBRIDGE
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

1937

*Folcroft Library Editions
Box 182
Folcroft, Pa. 19032*